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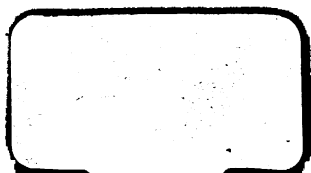
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THE INTER OCEAN  
CURIOSITY SHOP

FOR THE YEAR 1890.

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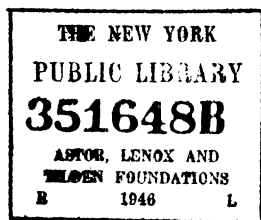
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# PREFACE.

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THE INTER OCEAN herewith issues the thirteenth annual volume of OUR CURIOSITY SHOP, which is the name given to its popular and valuable department devoted to queries and answers, now in the fourteenth year of its existence.

The yearly numbers of OUR CURIOSITY SHOP for 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, and this one for 1890 are all stereotyped, and numbers for any or all of the years indicated can, therefore, be obtained upon application to THE INTER OCEAN.

Attention is directed to some of the special features of this volume. As is well known, the volumes of OUR CURIOSITY SHOP *contain no duplicated articles*. All information, whatever its character, is, therefore, entirely free from repetition. This book is at once a compendium of the history of the year and a statistical reference. Its tables of rulers, compilations of land grants to railroads, information of the day as to telegraphs and railways, to religious and philosophic subjects, its histories of the several States and United States, of the life-saving service of various lands, of legislation generally and regarding pensions particularly, of the development of the country, of the wealth of its citizens, with the latest information on the great problems of the age, religious, scientific, political, disturbing the European nations—these are all here and all that tends to throw light upon them. The continents of Africa and Asia have held the attention and directed the diplomacy of Europe during the year 1890, and Stanley's explorations and the relations of Great Britain, Germany, France, and Portugal to the Dark Continent are clearly epitomized, forming a most interesting and important chapter in modern history. The great revolutions in South America have special articles devoted to them, while the discoveries made in other parts of North and South America as well as in the isles of the sea, all teem with lessons to the reader that will not find their way into the ordinary histories or books of reference for many years. The biographical sketches have been concisely prepared, and contain in broad outlines the careers of those to whom they refer.

The Index of this volume is, as in the case of all former numbers of OUR CURIOSITY SHOP, thoroughly and carefully compiled. The subjects treated are about 1,800 in all, and the arrangement of the references in the Index will be found clear, complete, and in every respect satisfactory to the reader. This volume of OUR CURIOSITY SHOP is one of the very best of the series.

T. C. M.

Vol. 13 1-28-90



## OUR CURIOSITY SHOP.

### EARLY ENGLISH COLONIES IN AMERICA.

**LIMA.**  
Who first landed a colony of English people in this country? Where did they land? Could Our Curiosity Shop tell us something of their difficulties? What custom did they introduce into England upon their return?

P. E. JUNE.

*Answer.*—The first attempt of the English to plant colonies in America was under the patronage of Queen Elizabeth in 1578. Many voyages of discovery had been made to the new world by Spanish, Portuguese, and English adventurous sailors. Every additional vessel brought information that roused the enterprise or cupidity of the mercantile or adventurous classes. Vessels had gone to the land lying north of Hudson Straits and had brought back cargoes of earth and stone that were believed to be gold. It was thought when Martin Frobisher found an inlet north of the entrance of Hudson Bay, and found some stones and rubbish that were said to contain gold, that then the way to the East Indies was indeed opened. These events served to greatly stimulate voyages of discovery. Under the patronage of Elizabeth, therefore, an expedition was organized in England to explore the Esquimaux country and get the rich stores of gold fabled to be there. Fifteen vessels, a great fleet in those days, were fitted out, in part at the expense of Queen Elizabeth. The sons of the English gentry embarked as volunteers. One hundred persons were chosen to form the colony. Twelve vessels were to return immediately with the cargoes of ore, and three were to remain and aid the settlement; but the expedition failed because of the entire absence of gold, and the plan of the settlement was abandoned. The first real settlement was projected by Sir Humphrey Gilbert, who obtained a patent from royalty June 12, 1578, formed according to commercial theories of that day, and to be of perpetual efficacy if a plantation should be established within six years; Gilbert and his heirs were to have possession of the soil he might discover, and the jurisdiction, both civil and criminal, of the territory within 20 leagues of his settlement, with

supreme executive and legislative authority. Gilbert assembled his followers, composed of volunteer adventurers, but it was only after great difficulties and delays that the voyage began. It was in 1579 that Sir Humphrey and a small company of his fast friends started. Among those who were intimately related to his enterprise was Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Humphrey Gilbert's step-brother. The first effort resulted in the loss of one of the ships, and the others were therefore compelled to return. After a time it became apparent that Gilbert, owing to serious misfortunes that had drained his income, could not continue personally this great enterprise, and the consequence was Raleigh was the one who naturally came to the rescue of his step-brother. In 1583 Gilbert had another expedition organized, and this set sail from England with the favor of the sovereign, Queen Elizabeth. Two vessels sailed from Plymouth, but two days after leaving port the largest ship that had been fitted out by Raleigh deserted and returned to the harbor. Gilbert continued his voyage, however, and sailed for Newfoundland, and in August entered St. John's, where he took possession of the country for his queen. It is related that "mineral substances" were seen in the mountains, and the expert who was with the expedition affirmed that silver ore abounded, and then the vessels sailed on their way, but had not gone far before the ship containing the ore and the "mineral man" was wrecked, nearly a hundred men perishing, and finally, of all the vessels that went out only one returned home. It was then that Sir Walter Raleigh's plans began to be developed for his colonization of the new country. Raleigh had been in France, and had been intimately associated with Gilbert in his unfortunate enterprises, and had fully resolved that there was a territory of promise much further south. In 1584 he obtained a patent from Queen Elizabeth similar to that granted to Gilbert, Raleigh being constituted a lord proprietor, with practically boundless authority. The first expedi-

tion comprised two vessels, and set sail April 27, 1584, arriving on the American shore in July, and coasting along the island of Roanoke and Albemarle Sound. These adventurers returned to England in high spirits, and with some of the products and aborigines, and in honor of the Queen the land was named Virginia. The voyage of the agents of Raleigh was noised abroad, the glowing descriptions of the returned adventurers inflamed the public mind, and another expedition was not long in being undertaken. This second venture was a fleet composed of seven vessels and 108 colonists destined for the shores of Carolina, and sailed from Plymouth April 9, 1585, sighting land in June on the main coast of Florida. The fleet was under command of Sir Richard Grenville. The colonists were left in charge of Ralph Lane, a man of distinction, who was acting Governor of the colony for Raleigh, while Grenville returned to England with some rich Spanish prizes and a glowing description of the new country. The colonists included Hariot, who was the inventor of the system of notation in modern algebra and the man who wrote the history of the expedition. He it was who observed the products of the country, the Indian corn, the potato, and tobacco. After remaining about a year in the new country the colonists under Lane were joined by Sir Francis Drake, who did much to ameliorate their condition and to make them not only comfortable but strong in their colony. But a storm visited the coast; the colonists and the natives did not get along as well as some of the whites desired, and finally the colonists were returned to England by Sir Francis Drake in his ships. "Thus," says Bancroft, "ended the first actual settlement of the English in America. The exiles of a year had grown familiar with the favorite amusement of the lethargic Indians, and they introduced into England the general use of tobacco."

#### JAVA'S VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS.

FIFTEEN MILE, IOWA.

Was the island of Java ever sunk? Give a description of the earthquake.

RUTH K. BROCKWAY.

*Answer.*—The island of Java, one of the most highly volcanic regions known to us, is traversed through the center from one end to the other by a principal mountain range, the peaks of which vary in height from 4,000 to 12,000 feet. In this main system there are some thirty-eight volcanoes; and in the range south of this central one, with peaks from 3,000 to 8,000 feet high, there are a number of others. The disturbed condition of Java may be imagined from the fact that in the year 1878 there were sixteen distinct earthquakes registered throughout the island. During the past century the destruction of life and property

growing out of the volcanic eruptions has been beyond computation. In the year 1772 the volcano Papandayang emitted in one night ashes and soot spreading over an area of seven miles radius a layer fifty feet thick, destroying forty native villages and 3,000 people. The volcano Galung-gung, a few miles from Papandayang, destroyed July 8, 1822, everything within a radius of twenty miles; and five days subsequently there was a second eruption, with a still greater loss of life. In the year 1867 there was an earthquake that caused the death of over one thousand persons and great destruction of property. In 1872 one of the most active of the sixteen volcanoes, called Merapi, burst out, and thousands of persons lost their lives. The last awful catastrophe occurred in 1883. The volcanoes were very active in the months of July and August. Especially were the volcanic islands in the neighborhood of Java threatening, chief among which were Krakatoa, opposite Anjer, and Sebocke and Sebesie, near the coast of Sumatra. On Krakatoa the Dutch government maintained a fort and garrison. On the night of Aug. 26, 1883, detonations from the island of Krakatoa were heard at a distance of nearly fifty miles. Several hours later showers of stones and ashes began to descend at the towns of Jogjakarta, Serang, Sourabaya, and Samarang, and then red-hot stones filled the air. In the morning the waters in the neighboring sea began to hiss and boil, and great waves dashed up against the Javan coast. The disturbances extended by midday on Aug. 27 to the volcanoes on the island of Java, and the largest of these were soon seriously involved. Maha Meru, which is the largest of the volcanoes of Java, was emitting ashes and soot, and Gunung, which has next to the largest if not the largest crater in the world, was disturbed. The disturbances extended to more than a third of the volcanoes on the Javan group. Some of these volcanic eruptions threw out sulphurous mud and white acid, and immense rocks were hurled up into the air and fell into the valleys, killing many people and destroying many villages. It is related that the sea rose in great banks of water, and swept everything before it. The most fearful eruption was that of the Gunung Tengger, which was a volcano that had been dormant since 1880. Great glowing boulders were sent forth out of its crater, and these hailed down on the dwellings of the fishermen and farmers, destroying every living thing. This peak, 6,000 feet high, was surmounted by a fiery pillar. The sides of the mountain opened in great crevices and chasms. The Javan forests were set on fire by the showers of glowing stones that rained upon them, and not a crop of the thousands of fields of



coffee, rice, sugar, indigo, or tobacco was saved from the mud, stones, and lava that hailed down upon them. The tidal waves were awful. In Sumatra, to which the disturbance extended, the town of Telokbetong was submerged and all its inhabitants lost. There were 200 white people lost at Anjer by the tidal wave that swept in there. The losses of life elsewhere were appalling. It is stated that of the 25,000 people who lived along the shore in front of or near to Anjer, the greater part were swept away by the waves. Other places shared an equally awful fate. Tjiringin, south of Anjer on the coast, was washed away by the tidal waters; at Bantam there were 1,200 to 1,500 persons lost their lives by drowning. The island of Serang was completely covered and every one of the inhabitants drowned. Many other places were visited, and towns and villages that are to us only names were annihilated. The Straits of Sunda were very greatly changed after the subsidence of the disturbance. The island of Krakatoa disappeared, and the mountain of Kramatan, a lofty summit forming the southeasterly promontory of Sumatra, disappeared in the sea. There were many other changes, but these are among the most important.

#### COLORADO'S GOVERNORS.

ORIENT, Iowa.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give a list of the Governors of Colorado from the beginning of the Territory to the present time?

ROBERT J. COLLINS.

*Answer.*—The Governors of Colorado have been as follows:

TERRITORY.	
John Evans.....	1861-65
Alexander Cummings.....	1865-67
A. Cameron Hunt.....	1867-69
Edward M. McCook.....	1869-76
STATE.	
John L. Routt.....	1876-79
Frederick W. Pitkin.....	1879-83
James B. Grant.....	1883-85
Benj. H. Eaton.....	1885-87
Alva Adams.....	1887-89
Job A. Cooper.....	1889—

#### EARLY POSTAL RATES.

MENTONE, Ind.  
What was the rate of postage when postage stamps were first used in this country?

READER.

*Answer.*—The postal system of America dates from colonial times. It was during the reign of the good Queen Anne that we have the earlier evidence of what became a system in later years. About the year 1692 there was a postal plan considered, but it was not until eighteen years subsequent that it took anything like the form of a system. Benjamin Franklin in 1753 was placed in charge of the postoffice department of the Colonies, and did much to further bring the postal business to the order and arrangement reached at the breaking out of the Revolution. Of Franklin it was said that he startled the colonies in 1760 with the propo-

sition to run a stage wagon from Philadelphia to Boston once a week, leaving each city on Monday morning and arriving at the end of the journey on the following Saturday night—about the time now taken by an ocean steamship to make the trip from New York to Liverpool. Previous to the year 1816 the rates of postage were: For a single letter, composed of one sheet of paper, under forty miles, 8 cents; under ninety miles, 10 cents; under 150 miles, 12½ cents; under 300 miles, 17 cents; under 500 miles, 20 cents; over 500 miles, 25 cents. During that year the following changes were made: Single letters not over thirty miles, 6½ cents; over thirty and under eighty miles, 10 cents; over eighty and under 150 miles, 12½ cents; over 150 and under 400 miles, 18¾ cents; over 400 miles, 25 cents, and an additional rate for every additional piece of paper, and if the paper weighed an ounce, four times the rates indicated. In the year 1845 there was a still further reduction, as follows: For a letter not exceeding a half ounce in weight, under 300 miles, 5 cents; over 300 miles, 10 cents, and an additional rate for every additional half ounce or fraction of a half ounce. In the year 1851 another movement was made along the line of reduction of postage. For a single letter of one-half ounce under 3,000 miles 3 cents was charged, if prepaid, and 5 cents if not prepaid; over 3,000 miles, 6 or 12 cents; to foreign countries, not over 2,500 miles, except where postal arrangements existed, 10 cents; over 2,500 miles, 20 cents; drop letters, 1 cent; ship letters, 2 cents, and if delivered where deposited, 6 cents; if sent through the mails the ordinary postage was added. There were still further modifications made in 1852, such as letters sent over 3,000 miles, and not prepaid, 10 cents postage; newspapers, circulars, etc., three ounces, 1 cent. In 1855 single inland letter postage was reduced to 3 cents for all distances under 3,000 miles, and 10 cents for all over that distance, and all inland letter postage was to be prepaid. In 1863 the rate of postage was made uniform at 3 cents on all domestic letters not exceeding one-half ounce, and 3 cents additional for every half ounce or fraction of the same. The other change to 2 cents is too well known to require even mention.

#### SUSPENSION BRIDGES.

AUDUBON, Iowa.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop tell us how suspension bridges are built?

J. A. SHINGLEDECKER.

*Answer.*—For centuries suspension bridges have been built, sometimes of chains, sometimes of ropes, these latter often made from the bark of trees; although iron suspensions are of comparatively recent times. One of the highest engineering authorities of the United States thus briefly states that "the economy of metal

in a suspension bridge, under the average circumstances of its attainable depth, is from one-fourth to one-half of that in a tubular or simple girder-bridge of equal strength and rigidity." The simple rope bridges in Peru and in Central Asia are merely two ropes hung side by side across some space sought to be spanned; then a kind of platform is laid on these ropes, and the inverted bow or dip is such that man or beast may cross. The suspension bridge, as we have it, is composed of two or more chains, and from these chains a level platform is hung by suspension rods; the chains are generally secured to either side of the chasm crossed by what is known as anchorage, by passing over piers. The chains used to construct these suspension bridges are wire ropes or chains composed of links. As already intimated, the cost of the suspension bridge is much less than that of many other kinds of large bridges, because of the amount of materials required. The late Professor Jenkin, of the University of Edinburgh, thus clearly illustrates this: "A man might cross a chasm of 100 feet hanging to a steel wire 0.21 inches in diameter, dipping ten feet; the weight of the wire would be 12.75 pounds. A wrought iron beam of rectangular section, three times as deep as it is broad, would have to be about 27 inches deep and 9 inches broad to carry him and its own weight. It would weigh 87,500 pounds." Trains do not as a rule cross suspension bridges at a high rate of speed, and unless otherwise strongly fastened so as to overcome lateral and other oscillation, the dangers are considerable. Engineers have, however, so thoroughly studied these and all other matters in connection with bridge building that these great structures are now made with a view to meeting all such strains and contingencies. Some of the best known suspension bridges in the world have been the Brooklyn bridge, the bridge over the Ohio at Cincinnati, the Suspension at Niagara, the chain suspension at Menai Strait, at Fribourg, Switzerland, and at Peeth over the Danube. In Our Curiosity Shop book for 1883 is a detailed description of the Brooklyn bridge, and in the book for 1885 is a description of the Tay bridge.

#### WORLD'S FAIRS.

##### CHICAGO.

Where have the World's Fairs been located? Was there ever one in the United States?

##### WEST SIDER.

*Answer.*—The great industrial exhibitions of the world have come to be commonly known as world's fairs. In France they have been held more or less regularly for a century. In Paris they were opened in 1798, 1801, 1802, 1806, 1819, 1823, 1827, 1834, 1839, 1844, 1855, 1867, 1878, and 1889. The idea of an industrial exhibition was popular in Great Britain

when it was first suggested, and the people became enthusiastic over the project. The first great exhibition was in 1851, when it was held in the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, a suburb of London. The late Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's husband, was among the most active in making the exposition a success. There was another exhibition held there in 1862, and the Crystal Palace has been made famous for these international expositions. The last two international expositions that have attracted to them from abroad more exhibitors and visitors than any previously held were those at Paris in 1878 and 1889. It is stated by the great steam and rail transportation companies that thousands upon thousands of Americans have crossed the Atlantic to visit Paris, the Eiffel Tower, and the exposition during 1889. In the year 1853 there was a world's fair held in the United States. New York had built a Crystal Palace. It will be remembered that the Crystal Palace of Great Britain was then in the height of its fame and glory. So New York was not to be behind our European cousins. On July 14, 1853, therefore, the New York Crystal Palace was opened. The building was of glass and iron, and was erected in the form of a Greek cross. Its dimensions were 150 feet wide by 365 feet long. The number of exhibitors from abroad was about 3,000 in all. The exhibition was opened by President Pierce and was continued for four months. It is related that the exposition gave American industries an impetus that was felt for many years. The Crystal Palace of New York was continued for some years as an annual fair, and in 1858, while one of these was in progress, the place took fire and was burned. The Centennial Exposition in 1876 was held in Philadelphia. New York tried to hold a world's fair in 1883, but it was abandoned.

#### "THE DECLINE AND FALL."

##### POTOMAC, III.

What caused Edward Gibbon to write the "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire?" A short sketch of him would be appreciated.

##### T. H. POSSEN.

*Answer.*—The great historian himself gives the best account of the way he came to write his work on Rome. "It was in Rome," he writes, "on the 15th of October, 1764, as I sat musing amid the ruins of the Capitol, while barefooted friars were singing vespers in the temple of Jupiter, that the idea of writing the decline and fall of the city first started to my mind. But my original plan was circumscribed to the decay of the city, rather than of the empire; and though my reading and reflections began to point to that object, some years elapsed and several avocations intervened before I was seriously engaged in the execution of that laborious task." Gibbon had been visiting Italy. Born in Putney, England, April 27,

1737, the eldest son and only survivor of a family of seven, he was early a child of promise. At 10 his mother died; at 15 he was sent to Oxford, where he was converted to Catholicism, to be converted back again to Protestantism eighteen months after; he went to Switzerland; traveled and studied until 1761, when he published an essay defending classical studies against the attacks of the French philosophers; visited Rome in 1764, when he determined to write his history; he settled in London in 1770, upon the death of his father, and began work more directly upon the "Decline and Fall." In 1774 he was elected a member of the House of Commons, and for eight years silently supported the government of Lord North. It was in 1775 when the first volume of his history was completed; at first refused, it was finally accepted by two book publishers, and when it appeared early in 1776 its success was immediate; in a few days the first edition was exhausted, and a second and third edition were demanded. His views of Christianity in the closing chapters called forth numerous attacks, but his ornate style and great subject took the public. The second and third volumes were published in 1781, and were received with eagerness by the reading public, and were more successful than the first. The fourth volume was finished while he was at Lausanne, Switzerland, and on June 27, 1787, his great work was completed. He went to England, bearing the manuscript of the last three volumes with him, and on his 51st birthday, the time chosen by himself, they were issued. In July, 1788, he returned to Lausanne to find his life-long friend, M. Deyverdun, dying. He remained in Switzerland for a time. Among his neighbors were the Neckers; the wife of the banker Necker was a lady to whom he was deeply attached while young, and who became the mother of Mme. de Stael. Gibbon at length returned to England, dying in London Jan. 16, 1794.

#### RECENT EGYPTIAN HISTORY.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Would like an outline of events in Egypt and the Soudan since 1875.

A. J. B.

*Answer.*—Previous to the year 1875 the financial affairs of Egypt were seriously involved. Commissioners were chosen by the European bondholders to ascertain if it would not be possible to adjust the finances, and considerable progress was made. In the year 1875 the Khedive of Egypt disposed of his shares in the Suez Canal to Great Britain. This was considered a bold and successful stroke of the British Government, and Disraeli was given the credit for this movement. One step led to another until the financial control of the country was placed in the hands of the British and French. Both the Khedive and the Egyptians were opposed to this arrangement. The native

officials were set aside for foreigners, and the taxes were heavy. The attempt to change this plan resulted in the deposition of the Khedive by the Sultan by the absolute demand of Great Britain and France and the setting up in his place of Tewfik, the son of the Khedive. This change in the administration of affairs still left the control of Egypt's finances in alien hands, as those who had loaned that country the money necessary to conduct its affairs demanded that their representatives be placed in control of the national revenue. The discontent of the people continued. Their antipathy to the foreign financial representatives became deep-seated and pronounced and led to the officers in the Egyptian army becoming seriously disaffected. The revolt of Arabi Pasha in the year 1881 followed, and the result is well known. The Khedive was too weak to stand long either way, and he speedily complied with the demands of the revolutionists, and their chief and representative was made Minister of War. This turn to affairs in Egypt did not in any way suit the plans of Great Britain and France. Their early and well defined purpose was to suppress the movement. All the arts known to diplomacy failed, however, to secure their point. Then it was that they commissioned their war ships, and the navies of these two great Western European nations were soon heading for the Nile. In the month of June, 1882, there was an uprising in the city of Alexandria, and the British Consul was wounded and many Europeans were killed. This brought down upon Egypt the fleets and shells of the British, and Alexandria was bombarded and fired. Arabi Pasha was the military genius and leader of the forces that opposed the bombarding fleet. In the presence of the superior war ships and forces of the British the Khedive was again as anxious to be supple as he had been when he acknowledged Arabi. The latter retired to Cairo with his army. The Khedive declared him a rebel, and his troops seemed indifferent as to the result. The deposition of Arabi by the Khedive did not at once end the contest, but greatly accelerated it. General Garnet Wolseley took Tel-el-Kebir and Aboukir; Damietta and Cairo fell, and Arabi was a prisoner and an exile. Affairs continued more than ever under British control. Lord Dufferin was largely instrumental in reorganizing the administration. Egypt kept losing whatever of prestige it had gained upon the deposition of Ismail and the accession of his son Tewfik, the latter proving generally weaker than his father. The difficulties of the British administration were not lessened by the passive and active antagonism of many of the European powers that were anxious to see British disaster follow British influence. France did not find its strength felt or its position recognized after the capture and banishment of Arabi in any

such way as had been anticipated. At this juncture the British difficulties increased. Great Britain's foreign policy as regards Egypt was begun under Disraeli and a Conservative government, to be continued by Gladstone and a Liberal government. Under these circumstances the revolution inaugurated by the Mahdi came upon a British ministry that was scarcely prepared for it, a ministry that was distinctively a home-government administration, which had then great home problems to deal with. El Mahdi had surrounded himself with thousands of followers that fanatically looked upon him as a prophet to lead them to victory against everything that was Egyptian or of Egyptian tendency. Egypt had placed upon those who flocked to the Mahdi's standard such burdens as could or would not be borne, and the Moslem cry with this craze for Egyptian blood spread over the Soudan. Every motive was touched. The slavers were wild at Great Britain's efforts to crush out their awful traffic. The clouds gathered thick and fast over Britain's troops in the Nile country. Gladstone's idea was to relinquish the Soudan as soon as the troops could be removed with safety, but the Khedive was strongly opposed to this. The difficulties in upper Egypt and the Soudan increased in 1883, until November, when Hicks Pasha, a British soldier in the Khedive's army, was defeated and killed by the forces of the Mahdi. The city of Khartoum was now in serious danger, and Osman Digma, one of the Mahdi's followers, was operating strongly along the Red Sea, threatening Suakim, which was the base of operations of Baker Pasha, a British soldier in the Khedive's service. In February, 1884, Baker was defeated, but Osman Digma was driven away and compelled to seek refuge in the mountains. It was at this juncture that General Gordon was sent to Khartoum. The object of this movement was to seek to do away with the hostility of the warlike tribes of the Soudan, as well as to arrange for the safe withdrawal of the troops, and the possible concluding of terms of peace with the Mahdi. One after another of the places held by the Egyptians and foreign soldiers fell into the hands of the Mahdi, and slaughter after slaughter followed, with cruelties indescribable. General Gordon was finally caught in Khartoum so that every chance to communicate with the outside world was unsuccessful. General Wolseley was sent out to Egypt with a large force with a view to rescue Gordon from his perilous position, but before anything could be done Khartoum fell and Gordon was slain. The general failure in Egypt and the Soudan of the British military operations did more than any one thing to break down the Gladstone ministry, and force it to give place to the Conservative government

of Lord Salisbury. Since then the general condition of Egypt remains substantially unchanged.

#### EARLY JEWISH MARRIAGE CEREMONIES.

655 LARRABEE STREET, CHICAGO.

Will Our Curiosity Shop describe the marriage ceremony of the Jews in Bible times and tell us where such description can be found?

MRS. M. G. VOGEL.

*Answer.*—The Bible covers such a period of time and chronicles so many political, religious, and social changes, that we are prepared for divergences leading to wide differences in so important a matter as that of marriage. In general, we glean from the sacred writings that the parents took charge of the preliminary negotiations. The young people appeared rather in the light of children. In this particular there is no substantial difference between the ancient Jews and the modern Mahometans. There are some notable instances in the Old Testament of the bridegroom choosing his bride; but so far as is recalled there is no case mentioned wherein the young lady herself seems to have been first consulted. In Genesis, xxiv., at the fifty-eighth verse, there is the case of Rebekah recorded, but her elders were first approached. In this instance the bride was sent for through a trusted servant. From such and other references in the Bible we may properly infer that the duty of choosing a wife was sometimes committed to some mutual or other friend. When the bride had been chosen, then followed the espousal, or betrothal, a contract made with great solemnity, and accompanied with presents to the bride. There was usually a feast, and sometimes a ring was used. Sometimes, as in Rebekah's experience, there was an interval of ten days between the time of the betrothal and the departure for the house of the husband. In later Bible times the period between the betrothal and marriage was a year for virgins and a month for widows. The bride remained with her friends during this time, and she and the groom-elect were compelled to communicate with one another through some one who is spoken of in St. John, third chapter and twenty-ninth verse, as "the friend of the bridegroom." The bride from the hour of espousal was regarded as the wife of the groom-elect. The marriage ceremony then came. The chief point was the removal of the bride from her ancestral home to the house of her husband or that of the bridegroom's father. The bridegroom was "decked (Isaiah lx; 10) with a garland," and he wore a festive dress, and on his head was a nuptial turban. The bride was robed in white and sometimes (Psalms xiv.) embroidered with gold thread, and she was often adorned (Isaiah lxi; 10) with jewels. The hour having arrived when the bridegroom was to go to the house of the bride and bring her to

his own home, he sets out attended by friends. The time is generally late in the evening. The groom is preceded by musicians and persons carrying torches. He then takes the bride to his own house where a feast is prepared to which his friends are invited (Genesis xxiv., Matthew xxii., Luke xiv.), and the festivities are continued sometimes (Judges xiv.) seven days, and sometimes even to fourteen days. It was not uncommon, where the family were wealthy, for them to furnish the guests with robes (Matthew xxii.). We learn (from Judges xiv.) that the wedding feasts were enlivened with stories, riddles, etc. The bride is still completely veiled, so that it is no wonder Jacob was deceived (Genesis xxix.), and she remains veiled until the public ceremonies close.

#### THE PEOPLE OF BRAZIL.

YANCKTON, S. D.

Describe the people of Brazil; their manners, customs, and language used. Also mention the principal industries of the country.

SUBSCRIBER.

*Answer.*—The twenty provinces of Brazil contain, according to recent reports, 12,922,000 people. Of this population, one-twelfth reside in thirteen cities. Rio de Janeiro was given in 1885 a population of 357,332, Bahia 140,000, and Pernambuco 130,000. The pure whites comprise something like 35 per cent of the total population; 25 per cent or so are full negroes; 35 per cent are mulattoes, or descendants of whites and negroes, Indians and negroes, and progressively white persons; while the remainder are aboriginal Indians. In the northern provinces the Indians are most numerous, and in Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Pernambuco, and Minas the negroes are to be found in greater numbers. The Europeans and their white descendants live in the seaport towns and the adjacent provinces. When the complete emancipation act went into force recently, there were 900,000 slaves in the empire. The greater part of the Europeans in Brazil are those from the Latin races, chiefly the Portuguese and Spanish. The educated classes are ceremonious, proud, suave, and hospitable. The national character is summed up in the words mildness and generosity, with a strong flavor of the vindictive. In Rio de Janeiro, as in every other political or commercial capital of the world, the European fashions prevail, and the same is true of the other seaports of Brazil. But among the common people, and away from these centers of population, the Brazilian of to-day has not materially changed during the past half century; he wears the same kind of clothes that were worn in his grandfather's day; his sports are similar; chicken fights are patronized by clergy and laity alike. A recent traveler to Brazil remarks: "The Brazilian takes a walk

in the plaza with his family after dinner and retires early, if he does not go to the club or gaming table. The people are inveterate gamblers. There is no more disgrace attached to attendance upon the faro-table or the roulette board than attends stock gambling in New York. He calls upon the Holy Mother when he tosses his chips upon the cards, and says an 'Ave Maria' when he wins a stake. At every religious festival the cathedrals and churches are surrounded by gambling booths, and the priests always go to the cock fights after high mass on Sunday. Some of them breed game chickens and carry them to the pit under their priestly robes." The women of Brazil enjoy much more freedom than formerly. The social restrictions are passing away. It was once a serious offense for a gentleman to bow to a lady acquaintance or address her, except in the presence of some male relative, and even now no gentleman will be received at a house in the absence of the father or husband of the lady. The Portuguese language is that most generally used by the Europeans, and a mixture of that with the native is common in the provinces away from the large cities and seacoast. The principal exports of Brazil are coffee, sugar, cotton, India-rubber, tobacco, and hides. These exports come mainly to the United States and Great Britain. In the matter of strictly domestic products it may be observed that there are large mining industries, tanning and hide working, collecting and polishing precious stones, salt working, and similar enterprises.

#### THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDERS.

STURGEON BAY, Wis.

Would like as extended a history as possible of the Sandwich Islands, the inhabitants, their customs, ancient and modern traditions, what race they belong to, what language they speak, etc.

AMERICAN.

*Answer.*—The last census of the inhabitants of the Hawaiian Islands, taken on Dec. 27, 1884, gave the entire population at 80,578, divided as follows: Forty thousand and fourteen natives, 4,218 half-castes, 2,170 born of foreign parents, 17,939 Chinese, and 12,237 foreigners. The natives belong to the Malayo-Polynesian race, and are closely related to the famous Maoris of New Zealand; and these two peoples, although so widely separated, are able to understand each other's language. The Hawaiians are among the finest races, physically, in the Pacific; their skin is reddish-brown, their hair is black, straight or wavy; they have thin beards, broad faces, noses rather flattened, thick lips, and their chief men are noted for their height. The decrease in the native race is well known. The most reliable recent authorities state that two out of three of the native women with native husbands are childless, while marriages between native women and either Americans or

Chinese are fruitful. The native men are greatly in excess of the women. Mothers generally have little maternal instinct. The decrease in the number of the natives during the past seventy-five years has been very great; an illustration of this is found in the fact that between 1878 and 1884 the number of natives decreased 4,084. In their savage state the natives were very loose in their morals. Besides being cannibals, it was not uncommon for men to live with several wives, and women to live with several husbands. So low were they that female virtue was an unknown thing, and there is no native word for it. A great change has been brought about by the work of the missionaries, and the introduction of Christian civilization. However, many diseases incident to the presence of foreigners among them have been and are said to be the causes of the decrease in the number of the natives. This is true in part only. The Sandwich Islanders furnish merely another illustration of races and nations disappearing from the face of the earth. The Hawaiians are naturally a good-tempered, light-hearted people, who love pleasure. They have many games and sports, and have a passion for horseflesh. They are famous swimmers, and their exploits in the surf are household words. The dwellings of the common people are usually made of wood or are huts thatched with grass. The food of the masses is composed chiefly of fish and pork, and bananas, sweet potatoes, yams, bread fruit, and the cocoanut, while the exports are principally sugar, rice, skins, wool, molasses, etc. The people are happy and industrious. For an account of the Leper Village in the Sandwich Islands see Our Curiosity Shop book for 1888, and for the political history of the people see Our Curiosity Shop book for 1886.

#### CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH.

THORNTON, Ind.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give an account of Captain John Smith, of the early Colonial times? GEOIL D. DAVIS.

*Answer.*—This famous early explorer and colonist of Virginia was born in 1579 or 1580, in Lincolnshire, England, the son of a well-to-do tenant farmer. His parents died when he was a mere lad, and left him with means at his disposal sufficient to follow his own inclinations. He early showed his spirit and love of adventure. From 1596 to 1604 he traveled in Europe, Asia, and Africa. During this period he served in the armies of France, Holland, and England, and performed prodigies of valor in many places. He was taken a prisoner by the Turks, and went to Constantinople to be sold or ransomed, but was saved by a lady who had fallen in love with him; but her devotion only brought him into more and greater difficulties, and he was led to kill his tormentor, who was the brother of his

lady-love, and escape to Hungary and Austria, and returned to England after an absence of years. It was at this period that the excitement of colonial enterprise and adventure was high in England. He entered into the Virginian project with all the enthusiasm of his nature, and was associated with Bartholomew Gosnold and others, and was one of the founders of the London Company of South Virginia, the other company being the Western Company for North Virginia. The Raleigh colonies had been a failure, chiefly because there was no suitable harbor on the coast or islands. The first object of the three ships that went with Smith was to find a place that would afford ample refuge and safety in all seasons and weather. The voyagers went by way of the West Indies. On the voyage Smith narrowly escaped being hanged on the charge of conspiracy, and, although afterward the lives of the men who had tried to hang him were at his mercy, he saved them. The explorers found the James River, and fixed the site for their colony. The first president of the council was E. M. Wingfield, and the settlement was called James Town. Smith was finally released from duress after thirteen weeks' restraint, and Wingfield was compelled to pay him \$200 as damages. The colonists were badly in need of food, and Smith went in search of it, with nine men and a barge. It was on this trip that he was captured through the disobedience of some of the men with him. For weeks he was a captive of a brother of the Chief Powhatan. It was finally decreed that he should be killed, and he would have been but for the intercession of Pocahontas, the daughter of the Indian chief. This story of Smith and Pocahontas was accepted generally without question until 1866, when it was openly denied by Dr. Charles Deane, of Cambridge, Mass. But it is still believed by many, and it seems to have been generally received in the lifetime of this remarkable man. Smith became the head of the colony, and his most bitter enemies would have perished if it had not been for his efforts in their behalf to keep the colony from starvation and annihilation. He remained in Virginia for some three years, returning to England in 1609. The remainder of his life was spent in exploring Canada and New England, from 1610 to 1617, and then in writing an account of his life and adventures. He lived until June 21, 1631, when he passed away, and was buried in St. Sepulchre's Church, London.

#### FIRST USE OF CONTINENTAL MONEY.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.

Give a brief account of the first money made and circulated by the United States. H. WARREN.

*Answer.*—The colonies had long been familiar with the practice of issuing paper money or bills of credit. When, therefore, the serious

trouble began brewing between the Colonies and the mother country it was natural that there should be a strong feeling in favor of the old plan. New York seems to have been the first colony to make a move in the way of issuing a Continental paper currency, a notion to that end having been taken early in 1775. Among these who early advocated an issue of paper money by Congress, instead of by the colonies, was Gouverneur Morris, who sent a report on the subject to Philadelphia, where the Congress was then in session. A committee to whom the subject had been referred reported in favor of the plan "that the Continental Congress should strike the whole sum and apportionate the several shares to the different Colonies." With all the speed possible, the need of money was so great that, to buy powder for the Continental army, Congress resolved to borrow £8,000 for the defense of America, pledging the faith of the Colonies for repayment. In view of these facts, it should be remembered that two kinds of money had been used in the Colonies. Pennsylvania had adopted the improved method which was to limit a certain amount of paper for a given time, say ten years, at the expiration of which period it was all redeemed. The other kind of paper was issued by a Colony, upon the pledge of certain taxes, which were considered sufficient to redeem it within a specified time. This method had longer been employed by the Colonies. In fact, nowhere but in Pennsylvania had the issue of paper money been satisfactory. On the subject of the first issue, here is what Professor Bolles says: "The bill passed by Congress, authorizing the first issue of bills of credit, certainly encountered the opposition of Franklin, for he wrote to Samuel Cooper that he took all the pains he could in Congress to prevent their depreciation, by proposing that the bills should bear interest. \* \* \* However divergent were the views of the delegates upon the question of issuing paper money or the mode of issuing it, Congress decided near the end of June (June 22, 1775) to issue bills of credit not exceeding two million Spanish milled dollars, pledging the faith of the confederated Colonies for their redemption. This plan was recommended by the committee of the New York Assembly, and it received the support of the delegates who represented that Colony in Congress. The next day some minor matters respecting the bills were settled, and a committee, consisting of John Adams, John Rutledge, James Duane, Benjamin Franklin, and James Wilson, were appointed to engrave the plate, procure the paper, and arrange for printing the notes." Franklin was more familiar with this work than any other member, as he had printed paper money for the Colony of New Jersey and devised the first copper-plate press for printing the

bills. The first Continental bills were of several denominations, from one to twenty dollars, and in form as follows:

Continental Currency.	
No.	Dollars.
This bill entitles the bearer to receive _____	
Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to the resolutions of Congress, held at Philadelphia, on the 10th day of May, A. D. 1775.	

#### NEW YEAR'S CUSTOMS.

DWIGHT, III.  
When did the observance of New Year's Day and New Year's Eve begin, and what were the early customs or ways of celebrating the day?

CONSTANT READER.

Answer.—The observance of New Year's Day as a festival may be traced back certainly to the time of Moses, and there is reason to believe that even then its celebration was no new custom. In the regulations prescribed in the Bible (Leviticus xxiii, 24, and Numbers xxix, 1), we discover that a holiday called the Feast of Trumpets was enjoined on the first of Tisri (October), which was the New Year's Day of the civil year, the month which commenced the Sabbatical year and the year of jubilee among the Hebrews. The celebration of the commencement of the year was a common custom among the Romans as early as the beginning of the Christian era, and, as inferred from the Old Testament allusions referred to, we may readily conclude that such ceremonies as marked the day were not then first introduced among the Latins. We read of processions with the celebrants attired in suitable white festal robes, the giving and receiving of gifts, the giving and receiving of visits, and the feasts that were held even in the remote corners of the great empire in the observance of the opening of another year. These festivities of the heathen world at this season no doubt exercised an influence on the Christian church in the commemoration of Christmas-tide a short time previous. It is impossible to trace the first observance of the New Year's celebrations in Great Britain, as they go back until the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. With these celebrations came in the observance of the night before, the speeding of the departing and the welcoming of the coming guest. In some sections they observed the new year for twelve days, and there were rounds of festivities that might sometimes have been omitted and civilization would not have been delayed. The jollity lasted until the old New Year. Among some in Great Britain it was customary to pour out libations that were for the benefit of the revelers just before midnight, and then for the celebrants to form themselves into companies and the small hours would witness many a visit and many a song and story. This was especially true of those residing in villages and towns. It used to be thought a sign of good or bad fortune according as a white or dark person happened to be the first visitor



on New Year's Day. Probably nowhere else was New Year's more thoroughly enjoyed than in North Britain, the Scotch celebrating it in no half-way style, but, as they did and do everything else, with a complete whole-heartedness never to be misunderstood. In Scotland the last day of the year is called Hogmanay. In time it came about that the dying of the old and the birth of the new year were generally observed in a less demonstrative manner. There were fewer and fewer of the rollicking sets and actors and more and more of the quieter celebrations around the friendly hearth. Then the custom grew among pious people to hold religious or "watch" services at midnight in the churches. Now and then some communities and some persons in certain localities continue to ring the bells or fire cannon, or to have some similar demonstration.

#### THE NICOLAITANS.

LAKE CRYSTAL, MINN.

What was the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, how numerous were they, and what became of them?

ADAM BEAVER.

*Answer.*—The Nicolaitans are twice mentioned in the New Testament, and then only in the book of the Revelation, in the second chapter. No exact information is to be had as to the origin of the sect, and there have existed wide differences of opinions as to its founder. Some have thought it owed its existence to Nicolas, mentioned in the Acts, sixth chapter, who was one of the first deacons of the primitive church. Others again trace the name to the meaning of the word Nicolas in the Greek, which being translated is "Victor of the people," and Balsam "devourer of the people," and it is concluded that the two meant religious misleaders of the people; both are mentioned in the same verses of the second chapter of Revelation, and their work is thus shown to be related without being necessarily identical in every respect. The fathers of the Christian church did not agree as to the origin and originator of the sect of the Nicolaitans, Irenæus, who is the first to mention it, tracing it to Nicolas, while Epiphanius, Tertullian, Hilary, and Gregory of Nyssa tell a wholly different story. Epiphanius, who is not always accurate, says that all the Gnostics derived their origin from Nicolas; and other equally absurd statements appear in some of the writings of early Christian authors. The fact seems to be that the Nicolaitans as a sect grew up in some way and from some beginning which we can only conjecture. This much is known, however, that the second chapter of Revelation furnishes, with what we learn from other reliable sources, some idea of the dangers which threatened the early Christians by the rapid extension of the church to Hebrews and Gentiles alike. Society in the heathen Roman world was unutterably debased. The indescribably low practices of

the Gentiles had long been sapping the foundations of the empire of the universe. The sacrifices to idols was one of these, but only a small part. Some of the ignorant, crafty, and vile had sought to have introduced into the meetings of the early Christians many of the impurities of the heathen feasts. The holy kiss became a reproach. The fraternal greeting grew to be a by-word. The festivals of the church took on more and more the character of the bacchanalian orgies of the pagans. Gluttony was present at some of the sacred feasts. And the almost unthinkable indecencies and foulness of heathenism threatened the very life of the church. No picture of the utter abandon of the pagan world could do the subject justice. Hence the strong language of the Scripture. The danger that lurked in these practices under the name of religion could not be too vigorously set forth, especially when there were teachers abroad who gave countenance to such debasing customs by what was construed as divine approval of them, just as the Endowment House of the Mormons is made to sanction the foul practices of the "saints." The inspired writer is so pronounced on the subject that it seems there was hope for a church, no matter how weak and wanting in faith, that hated the deeds of the Nicolaitans. Nothing appears to show the number or strength of the Nicolaitans.

#### JOHN G. WHITTIER.

DE MOTTE, Ind.

Would Our Curiosity Shop give a biographical sketch of John G. Whittier?

ETHEL FAIRCHILD.

*Answer.*—John Greenleaf Whittier is one of the purest and sweetest of the world's poets. Like so many of the gifted singers, he was born in the country, and from earliest childhood was an intimate of Nature; but his sympathy with the suffering, his championship of the distressed and down-trodden, his deep religious spirit, and the uniformly high patriotism that pervades all his writings, are without a superior in modern literature. The passing event often forms the text of the gentle, fearless singer's verse, and wherever pitched the key is pure and unmistakable; it is always for humanity. The simplicity and the purity of his life are proverbial. Born at Haverhill, Mass., Dec. 17, 1807, the farmer's boy worked some also at the shoemaker's bench, and secured the advantages of the academy of his native place, and at the age of 22 became the editor of a journal called the *American Manufacturer*, at Boston, and in 1830 he was made editor of the *New England Weekly Review* at Hartford. In 1832 he returned to Haverhill to edit the *Gazette*, of that place, and look after farm matters. In 1835-36 he was elected and served as a member of the Massachusetts Legislature. By this time he had become deeply

interested in the question of slavery. His was never a nature to see wrong done to human kind without lifting up his voice against it. In 1835 he faced a mob in Concord, in company with a British abolitionist orator, George Thompson (an account of which is given in *Our Curiosity Shop Book* in 1885). He was chosen one of the secretaries of the American Anti-Slavery Society, and for several years lived in Philadelphia and edited the *Pennsylvania Freeman*, an anti-slavery journal, whose office was sacked and burned by a mob in the City of Brotherly Love, and during his residence there the great Pennsylvania Hall pro-slavery infamy occurred (an account of which is published in *Our Curiosity Shop* for the year 1887.) In the year 1840 he returned to New England, removing to Amesbury, Mass., where he has since resided. In 1847 he became corresponding editor of the *National Era*, a prominent anti-slavery journal published in Washington, in which Mrs. Stowe's world-famous "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was first published. Whittier has been untiring with his pen. His works show the range of his genius, but ever the theme is humanity and the note is ever freedom. Some of his better known works are: "Mogg Megone" (1836), the "Bridal of Pennacook" (1848), "In War Time" (1863), "Snow Bound" (1866), "The Tent on the Beach" (1867), etc. He was never married. His birthdays have of late years been beautifully celebrated throughout the United States, and the magnificent old man has lived to see a grateful humanity shower benedictions upon him for his generous service for the race.

## THE VALLEY OF HINNOM.

Would like an account of the Valley of Hinnom in Palestine.

MINDEN, Neb.  
J. M. DAVIS.

*Answer.*—The Valley of Hinnom, also called the valley of the son or children of Hinnom, is a deep and narrow ravine, with steep, rocky sides, on the south and west of the City of Jerusalem. It separates Mount Zion to the north from the "Hill of Evil Counsel" and the sloping rocky plateau of the "plain of Rephaim" to the south. The first mention of the name is found in the fifteenth chapter of Joshua, where the boundary line between the tribes of Judah and Benjamin is described as passing along the bed of the ravine from En-Rogel to the top of the mountain "that lieth before the valley westward" at the north end of the plain of Rephaim. The valley became infamous because of the barbarous rites of Molech and Chemosh, celebrated there, and introduced by Solomon. (I Kings, xi., 7). It was in this valley that Ahaz and Manasseh made their children "pass through the fire," as recorded in the second book of Kings, in the sixteenth chapter, and second Chronicles in the twenty-eighth and thirty-third chapters, as well as in Jeremiah's

seventh chapter. The awful infant sacrifices to the fire gods took place there, and it was called Tophet. Josiah abolished the worship of Molech, and to show the utter uncleanness of the valley, it was covered with human bones, and the place was thus made ceremonially unclean. After this it became the common cess-pool of the city into which the sewage of Jerusalem was conducted, to be carried off by the waters of the Kedron. The name of the valley occurs a number of times in the New Testament, evidently to denote the place of torment, because of the horrid defilement of Molech or the ever-burning funeral piles.

## THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.

SAVOY, Ill.  
Will *Our Curiosity Shop* give an account of the Underground Railroad? LOIS M. LIVERGOOD.

*Answer.*—The slavery system, prevailing in certain States and not in others, attended by violence in its most malignant form, could not fail to create deep sympathy in non-slave holding communities, and a speedy understanding among the bondmen that their sufferings in servitude had raised up friends to them in freedom. Early in the century the States west of the Alleghenies began to fill up with a class of citizens that were largely from the New England and old Middle States. The pioneers of the South who went West were imbued with the belief in the institution of slavery, while those who came from the Middle and New England States were as devoted to the ideas of anti-slavery. As time passed an occasional refugee would find his way across the Ohio from the slave State and seek shelter in some friendly home. Among the stories that found their way to the cabins of the unfortunate black race was that of a land of freedom up North, and those in bondage looked that way somehow for their salvation. The Western Reserve became a sort of land of Canaan to the benighted blacks, with its free and freedom-loving settlers descended from stalwart Puritan stock and from the great-hearted Quakers. The slave States people, as time went by, became more and more intolerant. Men were driven out of their communities because they entertained anti-slavery views. Even free States did the same, as witness Lovejoy in Illinois, who became a martyr to his conviction that God had created all men free and equal. The slaves caught the spirit of the great debates of the day. The border States were for years in a ferment. Whenever a slave escaped from his master he fled to the North. The first difficulty was in crossing the Ohio. The danger was very great for both slave and freeman who helped him. The laws were stringent. Fine and imprisonment awaited him who was caught and found guilty of aiding slaves to escape. It was found necessary for mutual protection that some understanding be reached between those who were

willing to help fleeing slaves. This was the origin of the Underground Railroad. Says Wilson in his "Rise and Fall of the Slave Power in America": "The Underground Railroad was the popular designation given to those systematic and co-operative efforts which were made by the friends of the fleeing slave to aid him in eluding the pursuit of the slave-hunters who were generally on his track. This 'institution,' as it was familiarly called, played an important part in the great drama of slavery and anti-slavery. By its timely and effective aid thousands were enabled to escape from the prison-house of bondage, and to elude the clutches of merciless slave-catchers, pursuing after them with hot haste and often with bitter exasperation. Those who belonged to it, who guided and sustained its operations, bore no title, had no written constitution, and were bound by no secret oaths. Generally, though not exclusively, they were members of Christian churches, felt both justified and constrained by their religious convictions to ignore those laws of the government which forbade such succor, and the sentiment, rife in both church and state, that frowned upon this disregard of what were popularly regarded the compromises of the Constitution. The practical working of the system required 'stations' at convenient distances, or, rather, the houses of persons who held themselves in readiness to receive fugitives, singly or in numbers, at any hour of day or night, to feed and shelter, to clothe if necessary, and to conceal until they could be dispatched with safety to some other point along the route. There were others who held themselves in like readiness to take them by private or public conveyance. If by the former mode, they generally went in the night, by such routes and with such disguises as gave best warrant against detection, either by the slave-catchers or their many sympathizers scattered far too thickly even in the free States. To carry forward these operations, however, manifestly required calm and heroic courage, patience and perseverance, wise calculation and shrewd forethought, and no small amount of money. And it happened that there were many willing to make generous contributions of their means who were unwilling to perform the labor, risk of danger, or compromise themselves by joining personally in a service the popular voice condemned. When the wide extent of territory embraced by the Middle States and all the Western States east of the Mississippi is borne in mind, and it is remembered that the whole was dotted with these 'stations' and covered with a network of imaginary routes, not found, indeed, in the railway guides or on the railway maps; that each station had its brave and faithful men and women ever on the alert to seek out and succor the coming fugitive, and equally in-

tent on deceiving and thwarting his pursuers; that there were always trusty and courageous conductors waiting, like the 'minutemen' of the Revolution, to take their living and precious freights, often by unfrequented roads, on dark and stormy nights, safely on their way; and that the numbers actually rescued were very great, many counting their trophies by hundreds, some by thousands, two men being credited with the incredible estimate of over 2,500 each—there are materials from which to estimate, approximately, at least, the amount of labor performed, of cost and risk incurred on the despised and deprecated Underground Railroad, and something of the magnitude of the results secured." It would be impossible to mention even a few of the great-hearted men and women who helped in this work. And for a picture drawn from life of this work the reader is reminded of what Mrs. Stowe so admirably sets forth in "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

#### GREEK LETTER SECRET SOCIETIES.

BLOOMINGTON, Ind.

Would Our Curiosity Shop tell us of the character and aim of Greek Letter Societies in American colleges, and give the names of a few of the leading ones? SUBSCRIBER.

*Answer.*—In the majority of cases the object of the college fraternity is sociability. Many make a feature of literary work, and others are prominent in college politics, but the underlying feature of them all is the banding together of kindred spirits, for mutual helpfulness and enjoyment. In the larger Eastern colleges the fraternities have lost many of their former characteristics, and so their best development is found in the institutions of the Central and Western States, where they are doing a valuable and recognized work. Alpha Delta Phi, Psi Upsilon, and Delta Kappa Epsilon are among the older societies, while Phi Kappa Psi, Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Chi, and Delta Upsilon are exponents of the new school.

#### THE SPANISH COLONIES.

WALLULA, Wash.

What colonies are wholly or partially under Spanish rule? J. B. OLYMER.

*Answer.*—Spain's colonial possessions in America are Cuba and Costa Rica; in Asia, the Philippine Islands, the Sooloo Islands, the Caroline and Palao Islands, and the Marianne Islands; and in Africa, Fernando Po, Annabon, Corisco, Elobey, and San Juan. In the year 1885 the sovereignty of Spain over the Caroline Islands was formally decided by the Pope, and Great Britain and Germany accepted it. Spain lays claim to a strip of about 500 miles on the west coast of Africa, extending from Cape Bojador to Cape Blanco, and extending into the interior about 150 miles. Also the district of Ifni, near Cape Nun, opposite the Canary Islands; the islands off Elobey on the west coast of Africa, and the country on the

banks of the rivers Muni and Vava. In reference to the Sooloo Archipelago, let it be understood that the extent of that under Spanish protection was defined by the protocol signed at Madrid, March 7, 1885, by representatives of Great Britain, Germany, and Spain, as including all the islands lying between the western extremity of the island of Mindando on the one side and the islands of Borneo and Aragua on the other, excluding all parts of Borneo and the islands within three maritime leagues of the coast.

#### DISESTABLISHING THE IRISH CHURCH.

LEXINGTON, Neb.

Tell us about the disestablishment act of 1869 in Ireland.  
K. E. DARR.

*Answer.*—The Anglican Church in Ireland, as in England now, was maintained previous to the disestablishment at state expense. This endowment had been the occasion of long and animated discussions in British politics. When the Disraeli ministry went out by a strong vote of the people, the Liberal government came in under Gladstone, who speedily took up the subject of disendowing the Anglican Church in Ireland and of separating church and state there as far as possible. On March 1, 1869, he introduced the bill for "an act to put an end to the establishment of the Church of Ireland and to make provision in respect to the temporalities thereof, and in respect to the Royal College of Maynooth," and it was read a first time. After an extended and exciting debate it passed, March 24, to a second reading by a vote of 368 to 250. It was provided that while the disestablishment was to be complete, still it was not to become thoroughly operative until Jan. 1, 1871, at which date the ecclesiastical courts were to cease, the ecclesiastical laws were to have no further force, effect, or authority, the bishops were to be no longer peers in Parliament, and all the ecclesiastical corporations connected with the State church as such in the country were to be dissolved. The Gladstone government had to deal with a question of considerable importance in the disestablishment, namely, the difference and distinction between the public endowments, which were estimated at £15,500,000 (about \$77,500,000), including everything of the nature of a State government or revenue, which were to be returned to the State, and private endowments valued at £500,000 (about \$2,500,000), which were defined as money contributed from private sources since 1680 which were to be restored to the disestablished church. Several important additional provisions were made for compensation to vested interests, including those connected with Maynooth College and the Presbyterians, who were in receipt of what was called the royal gift. In regard to the clergy in charge of the churches they were secured during their lifetime pro-

vided they continued to discharge the duties of their benefice, the amount to which they were entitled, deducting the amount they might have paid for curates, or the interest might, under certain circumstances, be commuted upon application for life annuities. There were commissioners to be chosen to arrange for the closing up of the affairs of the disestablishment who were to report to the Crown that the objects contemplated by the act had all been complied with, and to report the surplus available for charitable purposes. The Commons bill was passed May 31, 1869, by a vote of 361 to 247. On June 1 Earl Granville introduced the disestablishment bill into the House of Lords. It was practically the same bill as that introduced into Commons. It passed to a second reading June 19 by a majority of thirty-three in a house of 300 members and about thirty pairs. A most determined fight was made against it by a number of the Conservative Lords. Some of the amendments made by the upper house were rejected or remodelled in form or expression, which caused the peers to grow very indignant, and for a time it seemed as though the bill might be withdrawn; but a compromise was effected in Cabinet council, and the bill was adopted in both houses with very little opposition, and received the royal assent July 26.

#### WHY NAPOLEON WENT TO ST. HELENA.

CEDARVILLE, Kan.

Why was Napoleon the Great banished to St. Helena?  
SAMUEL GIGER.

*Answer.*—After Waterloo and the dissolution of the Grand Army, Napoleon returned to France. The storm of revolution was already gathering; the tide of opposition to him had arisen and overflowed France; his son had been passed over by the Chamber of Representatives; his own services as general had been refused; he had endeavored to escape the vigilance of the British cruisers that guarded the coast, and he finally went on board the Bellerophon and surrendered himself to the commander, Captain Maitland. The great, fallen leader was informed that there were no conditions to be made in regard to the surrender of Napoleon, but that he should be conveyed to England to be received there in such manner as the Prince Regent should deem expedient. He had written to the Prince Regent from Rochefort that he had terminated his career, and said, "like Themistocles, I come to seat myself at the hearth of the British people. I place myself under the protection of its laws, which I claim from your Highness as the most powerful, the most constant, and the most generous of my enemies." The concurrent testimony of the historians of the times is to the effect that Napoleon's life was in imminent danger in France. Blucher had threatened to execute him, and he gave himself up because there was nothing else

to do. No graver questions ever faced a civilized nation than the disposition of Napoleon and Jefferson Davis when their public careers came to an end. In Europe the experiment had been tried of banishment, or rather restraint to Elba, but that had failed. Europe would never be at peace; the awful slaughters on the battle-fields, by disease, exposure, in all the ghastly forms of war, would not cease unless the cause were securely, permanently restrained; while to hold him beyond the reach of activity in Europe would be to imprison him. This was the condition, these were the reasons, that led the British government to decide to send him to St. Helena. For this purpose an act of Parliament was passed "for the better detaining in custody of Napoleon Bonaparte," and another act providing for the proper and special government of the island of St. Helena. He was detained on the Bellerophon until Aug. 4 and then transferred to the Northumberland, and on Oct. 15 arrived at St. Helena, never to leave it alive.

#### GOVERNORS OF DELAWARE.

ORIENT, Iowa.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give a list of the Governors of Delaware to the present time?  
ROBERT J. COLLINS.

*Answer.*—The following are the names of the Governors of Delaware from 1789 to the present time:

Joshua Clayton.....	1789-96
Gunning Bedford.....	1796-97
Daniel Rogers.....	1797-98
Richard Bassett.....	1798-1801
James Sykes (acting).....	1801-02
David Hall.....	1802-05
Nathaniel Mitchell.....	1805-08
George Truett.....	1808-11
Joseph Haslett.....	1811-14
Daniel Rodney.....	1814-17
John Clarke.....	1817-20
Jacob Stout (acting).....	1820-21
John Collins.....	1821-22
Caleb Rodney (acting).....	1822-23
Joseph Haslett.....	1823-24
Samuel Paynter.....	1824-27
George Polindexter.....	1827-30
David Hazard.....	1830-33
Caleb Bennett.....	1833-37
Cornelius P. Comegys.....	1837-40
William B. Cooper.....	1840-44
Thomas Stockton.....	1844-46
Joseph Maul (acting).....	1846-46
William Temple.....	1846-46
William Thorpe.....	1846-51
William H. Ross.....	1851-55
Peter F. Canon.....	1855-59
William Burton.....	1859-63
William Cannon.....	1863-65
Gove Saulsbury.....	1865-69
James Ponder.....	1869-75
John P. Cochran.....	1875-79
John W. Hall.....	1879-83
Charles C. Stokely.....	1883-87
Benjamin T. Biggs.....	1887-91

#### THE SPY IN TIME OF WAR.

GALENA, ILL.

What are the rules of war in regard to spies? What is a spy? Is anything but the death penalty ever granted to a spy?

CHARLES McDONALD.

*Answer.*—A spy is described as a person who in time of war, whether public or local, surreptitiously and in disguise, by false pretenses,

seeks military information within or near the lines of one belligerent with an intent to communicate it to the other; or who in disguise or by false pretenses seeks to pass through the enemy's lines with dispatches. The spy is generally punished, on arrest and conviction, by being hanged. The custom during the war of the Revolution with the British was to execute without delay the spy who was found with the proofs of his guilt upon his person. In the American army the prisoner was always given a trial, as in the case of Major John Andre, who was captured in disguise, under a false name and pass, within the American outposts, and before he reached the British lines. By the laws of nations the commander who employs a spy is not personally held accountable for so doing, and the person who has acted as a spy is fully freed if before trial and condemnation he has returned to his own lines. In a code published by the United States during the war for the Union it was announced that "the spy is punishable with death by hanging by the neck, whether or not he succeed in obtaining the information or in conveying it to the enemy," and that "if it be discovered and fairly proved that a flag of truce has been abused for surreptitiously obtaining military knowledge, the bearer of the flag thus abusing his sacred character is deemed a spy." Under the laws of war any person convicted of the offense will, without regard to sex, be amenable to the penalty. Under the United States statutes it is made an offense punishable by death to be convicted as a spy.

#### THE FREEDOM OF A CITY.

NORTH MADISON, Ohio.

What is meant by "the freedom of a city" being granted to a person whom a city wishes to honor?  
G. B. N.

*Answer.*—In Great Britain the presentation of the freedom of the city of London to a person of distinction is always an interesting and important ceremony. The corporation decides to confer the freedom of the city upon some eminent personage. The parchment is a small slip, on which are written the name and titles of the person it is to be given to, and it guarantees to the holder and his descendants forever the right to live and trade within the city prescribed by St. Clements in the west, Bishopsgate in the east, Pentonville in the north, and the shores of the Thames in the South, without having to pay a tax on the goods as they are brought through the gates; it exempts him from naval and military service, and tolls and duties throughout the United Kingdom; it insures his children the care of the City Chamberlain, who, in case they are left orphans, takes charge of their property and administers it in their interest until they arrive at years of maturity. The parchment bears the seal and signature of the Lord Mayor and

Chamberlain, is generally ornamented with ribbon, and is always inclosed in a long, thin gold box. The corporation, having decided to confer the parchment upon some distinguished person, he who is thus to be honored is informed of that fact by the City Chamberlain, and a date is accordingly set for the event. The guest, or freeman, is met by the Mayor and Councilors in the hall set apart for the purpose, and then the Chamberlain informs the guest the intention of the city with reference to himself, and an address is made eulogistic of the recipient of the honor. Then the distinguished person signs his name in the Clerk's book, and this official and the Chamberlain then sign their names beneath, becoming guarantors thereby for his acts as a free citizen. After some other less important ceremonies the recipient is greeted by the Mayor and other officials, and the gold box is given him to be kept as an heirloom for generations to come. Among those to whom the freedom of the city of London has been given have been General Blucher, President Grant, the Czar of Russia, M. Thiers, the Shah of Persia, and the Sultan of Turkey.

#### NAMES OF SOME CITIES.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give the names of some of our cities; as New York, "the Empire City"?

READER.

*Answer.*—There is hardly a city in the United States that has not a nickname. Among these the following are the best known:

Baltimore—Monumental City.  
 Boston—Hub of the Universe.  
 Brooklyn—City of Churches.  
 Chicago—Garden City.  
 Cincinnati—Porkopolis.  
 Cleveland—Forest City.  
 Detroit—City of the Straits.  
 Milwaukee—Cream City.  
 Madison—Four-Lake City.  
 New Haven—Elm City.  
 New Orleans—Crescent City.  
 New York—Empire City—Gotham.  
 Philadelphia—City of Brotherly Love.  
 Pittsburg—Smoky City.  
 Salt Lake City—City of the Saints.  
 San Francisco—Golden Gate.  
 Springfield, Ill.—Flower City.  
 Washington—City of Magnificent Distances.

#### GENERAL TAYLOR'S ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

LINDEN, Ind.  
 Why was General Zachary Taylor's "Army of Occupation" so called?  
 A. S. FRALEY.

*Answer.*—During the administration of Jackson, Van Buren, and Harrison and Tyler, the Texas question proved to be one of the most exciting political subjects before the Congress and people of the United States. When Polk was inaugurated the annexation of the Republic of Texas was an important issue. The annexation of Texas was decided upon by Congress, and on July 4, 1845, the Texas Legislature

ratified the act of annexation and the republic founded by Sam Houston became a State of this Union. This resulted in the withdrawal from Washington of the Mexican Minister. The hostile attitude of Mexico toward the United States on account of the annexation was well understood in this country, and especially did Texas appreciate the difficulties and dangers of its position. The Texas authorities at once urged President Polk to send to the Lone Star State troops for their protection. It was then that General Zachary Taylor was ordered to proceed to Texas and occupy it against Mexican invasion, hence the designation of his forces as the "army of occupation."

#### THE CLIFF-DWELLERS.

PAW PAW, Mich.

Will Our Curiosity Shop tell us what is known of the Cliff-dwellers?

MRS. M. V. HUNGERFORD.

*Answer.*—The Mound Builders and the Cave-dwellers and the Cliff-dwellers are three interesting races that have formed the subjects of investigation and discussion for years of our leading archaeologists. It is believed by many competent authorities that the Cave men and the Cliff men dwelt in the land now embraced by portions of Colorado, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, and certain northern States of Mexico. The architectural fragments that remain suggest a race or races of men who must have been occupants of the territory long before the Indian tribes as we know them came upon the scene. These ruins are pueblos, casa grandes, cave-houses, and cliff-houses. The cliff-house has always been an interesting feature of the antiquities of the United States. A writer who was on the ground, and spoke from actual observation, speaks as follows in describing one of these cliff-houses: "Over 600 feet from the bottom of the canon, in a niche in the wall, is a fine specimen of cliff dwellings. Five hundred feet of the ascent to this aerial dwelling was comparatively easy, but 100 feet of almost perpendicular wall confronted the party, up which they could never have climbed but for the fact that they found a series of steps cut in the face of the rock leading up to the ledge upon which the house was built. This ledge was ten feet wide by twenty feet in length, with a vertical space between it and the overhanging rock of fifteen feet. The house occupied only half this space, the remainder having been used as an esplanade and once was inclosed by a balustrade resting on abutments built partly upon the sloping face of the precipice below. The house was but twelve feet high and two-storied. Though the walls did not reach up to the rock above, it is uncertain whether it ever had any other roof. The ground plan showed a front room of 6 by 9 feet in dimensions, in the rear of which were two smaller rooms, each measuring 5 by 7 feet.

The left-hand room projected along the cliff beyond the front room in the form of an L. The rock of the cliff served as the rear wall of the house. The cedar beams upon which the upper floor rested had nearly all disappeared. The door opening upon the esplanade was but 20 by 30 inches in size, while a window in the same story was but 12 inches square. A window in the upper story, which commands an extended view down the canon, corresponds in dimensions and position with the door below. The lintels of the window were small, straight cedar sticks, laid close together, upon which the stones rested. Opposite this window was another one, opening into a semi-circular cistern, formed by a wall inclosing the angle formed by the side wall of the house against the rock and holding about two and a half nogasheads. The bottom of the reservoir was reached by descending on a series of cedar pegs about one foot apart, and leading downward from the window. The workmanship of the structure was of a superior order; the perpendiculars were true ones and the angles carefully squared. The mortar used was of a grayish-white color, very compact and adhesive. Some little taste was evinced by the occupants of this human swallows'-nest. The front rooms were plastered smoothly with a thin layer of firm adobe cement, colored a deep maroon, while a white band, eight inches wide, had been painted around the room at both floor and ceiling. An examination of the immediate vicinity revealed the ruins of half-a-dozen similar dwellings in the ledges of the cliffs, some of them occupying positions the inaccessibility of which must ever be a wonder when considered as places of residence for human beings." The abodes of the Cave men were similarly situated and equally inaccessible. Indeed, the only difference between them seemed to be the improvement made by those who built the cliff-houses, and who appear to have made considerable advancement in many things. We know little or nothing of the ancient Cave men and Cliff men except as we learn of them from the ruins they have left. The subject has, however, received new interest through the discoveries made during the year 1889 by the distinguished traveler, Lieutenant Frederick Schwatka, who, as THE INTER OCEAN's special representative, visited the Sierra Madre Mountains of Mexico, and there found what he believes to be veritable Cave and Cliff people in Southwestern Chihuahua. These Cave men and Cliff men described by Lieutenant Schwatka belong to the very wild tribes of Tarahumari Indians. They are described as fleeing from any and all white persons like so many quail. It is stated that they still worship the sun and believe in the return of Montazuma. Their

houses are in canons, and the inhabitants are often stark naked, except a pair of rawhide sandals so common among the Mexican peons, or the traditional fig-leaf fashion of Adam and Eve. One place he describes was on the Bacachio River. It was a huge cave in the limestone rock, almost overhanging the picturesque stream, and the inhabitants had walled up its outward face almost to the top, leaving the latter for ventilation probably, as rain could not beat in over the crest of the butting cliff. It had but one door, closed by an old, filthy goathide, into which the inhabitants had to crawl, like the Eskimo into the igloos, or snow huts. The strength of the dwelling as a place of defense is said to have been such that a dozen determined men inside should have kept away an army corps not furnished with artillery. There are hundreds of these Cliff-dwellers and Cave-dwellers in that territory, but it is remote from civilization, and little or nothing had been done to study them. Lieutenant Schwatka has recently returned from again visiting that region, and has brought with him a number of these strange people. We may expect soon to learn much more of them than our antiquarians have yet been able to tell us.

#### A CHAPTER OF ROMAN HISTORY.

MEADOWS, WASHINGTON CO., Idaho.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a brief history of the Roman Senate after the fall of the empire, and when and how its power was taken away?

WM. L. RAYMOND.

*Answer.*—It has always been difficult for historians to write intelligently, and therefore definitely, in regard to the history of Rome during the centuries immediately succeeding the fall of the empire. The reason for this is the absence of the necessary documents from which to write a history. Particularly is this the case in regard to the Roman Senate subsequent to the fifth century. Some authorities have contended that the Senate did not pass from the stage of political action in the middle ages; but others, with far better reason, believe that after the beginning or middle of the sixth century the Senate was only a name, and that in point of fact it ceased to exist. The latter class of historians hold that the body which had exercised such an influence and had been so powerful at times ceased to exist after the year 579 or 580, and they point to the fact that it is mentioned in no public or other documents, and that no doubt it had passed from the scene. In the eighth century the words senator and senatus reappeared, but the fact remains that the Senate had long ceased to act as a political body, and it is believed that the word senator is used only to designate a noble and the word senatus the nobility. It is further held that, with these meanings just indicated to the words senator and senate, the governing aristocracy or no-



bility, who formed a municipal or corporate body, was an altogether different organization from the original Senate of Rome, although transformed from the original body to a city council.

#### HEBREW HIGH PRIESTS.

KENNEDY, Chant County, N. Y.

How many high priests are mentioned in the Bible, and how long did they hold their office?

O. R. WATHERLY.

**Answer.**—Previous to the reign of Solomon the office of the high priest was held for life, but that king deposed Abiathar and appointed Zadok, because the former had sided with Adonijah, the oldest son of David then living. According to the best authorities the following is as nearly as possible a correct list of the high priests from the time of Aaron to the final overthrow of Jerusalem in the supposed years of their service:

No.	From Scripture.	From Josephus.	B. C.
1.	Aaron	Aaron	1657-1619
2.	Eleazar	Eleazar	1619-1680
3.	Phinehas	Phinehas	1680-1628
4.	Bishua	Abiezer	1628-1466
5.	Bukki	Bukki	1466-1409
6.	Uzzi	Ozi	1409-1362
7.	Zerahiah		1362-1295
8.	Meraioth		1295-1288
9.	Amariah I.		1288-1185
10.	Eli	Eli	1185-1125
11.	Ahitub I.	Ahitub	1125-1085
12.	Ahitub or Ahiah	Ahitub	1085-1060
13.	Abiathar	Abiathar	1060-1012
14.	Zadok I.	Zadok	1012-972
15.	Achimaz	Achimaz	972-956
16.	Azariah I.	Azarias	956-917
17.	Amariah II.		917-887
18.	Johanan	Joram	887-884
19.		Issa	884-883
20.	Jehoida	Axioramus	883-838
21.		Phideas	838-837
22.	Zechariah	Sudeas	837-809
23.	Azariah II.	Juelus	809-776
24.	Amariah III.	Jotham	776-742
25.	Urijah	Urias	742-730
26.	Azariah III. or Ahitub II.	Nerias	730-700
27.	Zadok II.	Odeas	700-647
28.	Shallum or Meshullam	Sallumus	647-634
29.	Hilkiah	Elcias	634-609
30.	Azariah IV.		609-598
31.	Berajiah	Sarcas	598-588
32.	Jehozadak or Jozadak	Josedec	588-540
33.	Jeshua		540-500
34.	Joiakim		500-485
35.	Eliashib		485-406
36.	Joiada		406-371
37.	Jonathan		371-339
38.	Jaddus		339-319
39.		Onias I.	319-302
40.		Simon I.	302-293
41.		Eleazar I.	293-260
42.		Manasseh	260-234
43.		Onias II.	234-219
44.		Simon II.	219-199
45.		Onias III.	199-175
46.		Jason	175-173
47.		Onias IV.	173-162
48.		Jaclmus	162-160
49.		Jonathan	160-143
50.		Simon III.	143-135
51.		Hircanus	135-106
52.		Judas	106-105
53.		Alexander	105-78
54.		Hircanus	78-41
55.		Antigonos	41-37
56.		Ananeel	37-35
57.		Aristobulus	35-33
58.		Jesus I.	33-23

No.	From Scripture.	From Josephus.	B. C.
59.		Simon IV.	23-5
60.		Matthias I.	5-4
61.		Jozar.	B. C. 4-1
			A. D. 1-4, 5-7
62.		Eleazar	4-..
63.		Jesus II.	4-5
64.		Ananus I.	7-21
64.		Ishmael I.	21-22
66.		Eleazar III.	22-23
67.		Simon V.	23-25
68.		Joseph I.	25-36
69.		Jonathan I.	36-37
70.		Theophilus	37-42
71.		Simon VI.	42-43
72.		Matthias II.	43-44
73.		Ellioneus	44-48
74.		Joseph II.	48-..
75.		Ananias	48-55
76.		Jonathan II.	..
77.		Ishmael II.	55-62
78.		Joseph III.	62-..
79.		Ananus II.	62-..
80.		Jesus III.	62-65
81.		Jesus IV.	65-69
82.		Matthias III.	69-70
83.		Phannias	70-..

The years, indicated in the right hand column above, from Aaron and Eleazar down to Joiada are largely conjecture and in dispute. During the Herodian period, and indeed after the beginning of this era generally, the high priests were the creatures of the kings, who made and unmade them at will. The New Testament speaks of three high priests, namely, Annas, Caiaphas, and Ananias. Of the last high priest Josephus says: "His name was Phannias; he was the son of Samuel, of the village of Aphtha, a man not only not of the number of the chief priests, but who, such a mere rustic was he, scarcely knew what the high priesthood meant. Yet did they (the Zealots) drag him reluctant from the country, and setting him forth in a borrowed chariot as on the stage, they put the sacred vestments on him and instructed him how to act on the occasion. This shocking impiety, which to them was a subject of merriment and sport, drew tears from the other priests, who beheld from a distance the law turned into ridicule, and groaned over the subversion of the sacred honors."

#### SENATOR CALVIN S. BRICE.

AFTON, Wis.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a sketch of Calvin S. Brice, the newly elected Senator from Ohio?

ULYSSES Y. WAITE.

**Answer.**—Calvin S. Brice, who was recently elected to the United States Senate from Ohio to succeed Senator Payne, whose term expires, was born in Putnam County Sept. 17, 1845. His father was the Rev. William K. Brice, a well-known Presbyterian minister, who went to Ohio from Maryland, and preached for many years in Northwestern Ohio. His mother was Miss Elizabeth Stewart, of Carroll County, and was a woman of unusual ability and fine character. Senator Brice's early training was careful and thorough, and at the age of 13 he entered the preparatory department of Miami University at Oxford. When the rebellion broke out he left his studies, and, al-

though not yet 16 years of age, he enlisted and served until the expiration of his term, and returned to the university, and in June, 1863, graduated. He went to Lima, where he taught in the public schools, and in the spring of 1864 he recruited a company and re-entered the service as Captain of Company E, One Hundred and Eightieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and remained in the service until the end of the war. He was promoted while in the field to the lieutenant colonelcy of the regiment for meritorious service, but Lee and Johnston laid down their arms before he mustered in for this office. Senator Brice returned to Lima and prepared himself for the law, graduating at Ann Arbor, and in 1866 was admitted to the bar. In the year 1869-70 he became interested in railroad building, and began to amass the fortune he is now enjoying. He is Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, and is an active political leader and successful financier.

**"BLACK AND WHITE ON THE BELL-KNOB."**

WAUKESHA, Wis.

Will Our Curiosity Shop inform me who is the author of "Black and White on the Bell-knob," and where it can be had, or when it was first printed, and where? MRS. L. J. R.

*Answer.*—The author, who has furnished us with a copy of the article, and who desires for the present to remain incognito, makes the following statement of the circumstances under which it was written; "My next-door neighbor had a very pretty baby boy, to whom I became greatly attached, as he did to me. I think the age of the baby was about 20 months or so at the time of its death, which shocked me very deeply. On my return home I saw the black and white ribbons fluttering from the bell-knob of the house as I passed. I saw the child in its coffin, a small white rose in its hand. I sat down to the desk and wrote the article and read it to my wife, who was very deeply grieved at the death of the little one, to whom she had been greatly attached. At her suggestion, almost wish, I was induced to take it to a newspaper office and asked its publication, if they thought it worthy. It appeared the next morning. I was never of the opinion that it had any worth, except as the expression of my own sorrow, and although I frequently saw it quoted in the papers, I failed to see any merit in its composition, until I heard it read by an elocutionist on the stage as a prelude to 'Little Willie, the Collier's Boy.' As the name of the little one of our neighbor was 'Willie,' that may have caused me to think there was something in the composition more than common. That is a plain statement of the facts."

The following is the "Black and White on the Bell Knob":

"A bunch of black and white ribbons is hanging from the bell knob—emblems of death

within the dwelling. "Somebody's dead there," remarks a passer-by. "Yes, it's a child," says the other, and they pass on in the current of the world. It is not their sorrow, and why should they weep? But it is somebody's child, and inside the dwelling there is weeping; for there is the "little one" still in death, and sweetly pretty it is. Its pale face, its closed eyes, that, if they could open, you know would smile on you, and oh, how serenely, too; and round the babe the children are clustered and wondering why—as children of a larger growth have wondered and will continue to wonder until the secrets of the grave shall be laid bare—why has their little relative died? Child-like queries are put to the parents. Why did God let little Willie die? Why couldn't God let him live and stay with us? Ah, why? The child asks, but where is the philosopher that can answer? Why, indeed! from a home replete with every comfort; where constant care, attention, and every kindness was lavished on it; where it was, in short, an idol worshiped with parental love, and why was it not permitted to stay?—the little angel of the household. Ah why, why? Its life was the light of the home; its death is gloom and darkness. But God's ways are past finding out; for what cares, troubles and temptations has the little one escaped?

"Oh, my heart grows as weak as a woman's,  
And the fount of my feelings will flow,  
When I think of the paths steep and stony,  
Where the feet of the dear ones must go;  
Of the mountains of sin hanging o'er them—  
Of the tempests of Fate blowing wild,  
Oh, there's nothing on earth half so holy  
As the innocent heart of a child!

They are idols of hearts and of households,  
They are angels of God in disguise;  
His sunlight still keeps in their tresses,  
His glory still gleams in their eyes.  
Oh, those truants from home and for heaven,  
They have made me more manly and mild;  
And I know, now, how Jesus could liken  
The Kingdom of God to a child."

"The pang is to come, the double one, for the infant dead must be taken out of the house and put into the grave, and the earth shall hide its little coffin and all the pretty flowers that kind hands had placed within it, and the sweet fresh-plucked rose held in the little one's hand—that too; and all must be buried, hidden in the earth, from whence it sprang. Such is the inevitable law. And yet amid all, to those who mourn their dead dear one, there is consolation, for He who gave hath the right to take away:

"Our God to call us homeward,  
His darling Son sent down,  
And now, still more to tempt us there,  
Has taken up our own."

"After all there is a reluctance to remove the black and white from the bell-knob, for, al-

though it told of death, it told also of the inheritance, by one, of that kingdom made up of such as their own little one."

## EDWARD BELLAMY.

NO. 1135 DUNNING STREET, CHICAGO.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give a short sketch of Edward Bellamy?  
AN INQUIRER.

*Answer.*—Edward Bellamy, the author of the well-known novel, "Looking Backward," is 39 years of age. The stock he comes of is good, intellectually and otherwise; he is a direct descendant of one of the leading theologians of the revolutionary period, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Bellamy, the Connecticut religious teacher, who was the friend of Jonathan Edwards and the instructor of Aaron Burr. Mr. Bellamy's maternal grandfather was the Rev. Benjamin Putnam, one of the early Baptist ministers at Chicopee Falls, of which Massachusetts village the author of "Looking Backward" is a native and resident. Mr. Bellamy studied at Union College and spent a year in further study in Germany, and when he came back to the United States he devoted himself to the study of law and was admitted to the bar. In 1871 he was a member of the staff of the *Evening Post*, of New York, and the following year he became a member of the editorial staff of the *Springfield Union*, remaining until 1876, when he quitted the field of journalism for more distinctively literary work. Then he made a trip to the Sandwich Islands by way of the Isthmus of Panama, returning overland from California. His first book was "A Nantucket Idyll," which was popular. Another story was "Dr. Heidenhoff's Process," which appeared as a serial. Among his other novels are "Miss Ludington's Sister," and "Romance of Shay's Rebellion," besides a number of shorter stories for the leading magazines. "Looking Backward" was published about two years ago, and has been very successful.

## A FAMOUS EPITAPH.

SUSSEX, Waukesha County, Wis.  
Where is the verse to be found, "The life of man is like a wintry day?"  
T. J. P.

*Answer.*—The line is not quite correctly given. The entire epitaph is on an innkeeper, and was found on a tombstone in Barnwell Kirkyard, and is:

Man's life is like a *Winter's Day*,  
Some only *Breakfast* & away;  
Others to *Dinner* stay and are full fed,  
The eldest man but *supps* & goes to bed,  
Large is his debt who lingers out the day,  
Who goes the soonest has the least to pay:  
*Death* is the *Waiter*, some few run on *Tick*,  
And some, alas! must pay the bill to *Nick!*  
Though I *owed much*, I hope long *trust* is given,  
And truly mean to pay *all debts* in Heaven.

## NATIONALITIES OF THE SIGNERS.

KENSINGTON, Ill.  
What were the nationalities of the signers of the Declaration of Independence?  
H. L. CLARK.

*Answer.*—The Signers of the great Declaration

of Independence, the colonies they represented their natives, and professions were as follows:

STATES.	When and where born.	Profession.
<i>N. Hampshire.</i>		
Josiah Bartlett...	Amesbury, Mass., 1739.	Physician.
Wm. Whipple...	Kittery, Me., 1730.	Sailor.
Mat. Thornton...	Ireland, 1714.	Physician.
<i>Massachusetts.</i>		
John Hancock...	Quincy, 1737.	Merchant.
Samuel Adams...	Boston, 1722.	Merchant.
John Adams...	Quincy, 1735.	Lawyer.
R. Treat Paine...	Boston, 1731.	Lawyer.
Elbridge Gerry...	Marblehead, 1744.	Merchant.
<i>Rhode Island.</i>		
Stephen Hopkins...	Scituate, 1707.	Merchant.
William Ellery...	Newport, 1727.	Lawyer.
<i>Connecticut.</i>		
Roger Sherman...	Newton, Mass., 1721.	Lawyer.
S. Huntington...	Windham, Conn., 1731.	Lawyer.
Wm. Williams...	Lebanon, Ct., 1731.	
Oliver Wolcott...	Windsor, Ct., 1726.	Physician.
<i>New York.</i>		
William Floyd...	Suffolk Co., 1734.	Farmer.
Phil. Livingston...	Albany, 1716.	Merchant.
Francois Lewis...	Llandaff, ales1713	Merchant.
Lewis Morris...	Morrisan, 1726.	Farmer.
<i>New Jersey.</i>		
Rich'd Stockton...	Princeton, 1730.	Lawyer.
J. Witherspoon...	Scotland, 1722.	Minister.
F. Hopkinson...	Philadelphia, 1738.	Lawyer.
John Hart...	Hopewell, 1709.	Farmer.
Abraham Clark...	Elizabeth'wn, 1726.	Lawyer.
<i>Pennsylvania.</i>		
Robert Morris...	England, 1733.	Financier.
Benjamin Rush...	Byberry, Pa., 1745.	Physician.
Benj. Franklin...	Boston, 1706.	Printer.
John Morton...	Ridley, Pa., 1734.	Surveyor.
George Clymer...	Philadelphia, 1739.	Merchant.
James Smith...	Ireland, 1720.	Lawyer.
George Taylor...	Ireland, 1716.	Iron founder.
James Wilson...	Scotland, 1742.	Lawyer.
George Ross...	Newcastle, Del, 1730.	Lawyer.
<i>Delaware.</i>		
Cesar Rodney...	Dover, Del., 1730.	Farmer.
George Read...	Maryland, 1733.	Lawyer.
Thos. McKean...	Pennsylvania, 1734.	Lawyer.
<i>Maryland.</i>		
Samuel Chase...	Somerset Co., 1741.	Lawyer.
William Paca...	Harford Co., 1740.	Lawyer.
Thomas Stone...	Charles Co., 1743.	Lawyer.
Charles Carroll...	Annapolis, 1737.	Lawyer.
<i>Virginia.</i>		
George Wythe...	Elizabeth City 1726	Lawyer.
Rich. Henry Lee...	Stratford, 1732.	
Thos. Jefferson...	Monticello, 1743.	Lawyer.
Benj. Harrison...	City Point, 1740.	Farmer.
Thos. Nelson, Jr.	York, 1738.	Farmer.
Francis L. Lee...	Stratford, 1734.	Farmer.
Carter Braxton...	Newington, 1736.	Farmer.
<i>N. Carolina.</i>		
William Hooper...	Boston, 1742.	Lawyer.
Joseph Hewes...	Kingston, N.J., 1730	Merchant.
John Penn...	Virginia, 1741.	Lawyer.
<i>S. Carolina.</i>		
Ewd. Rutledge...	Charleston, 1749.	Lawyer.
T. Heyward, Jr.	St. Lukes, 1746.	Lawyer.
Thos. Lynch, Jr.	Prince George's Parish, 1849.	Lawyer.
Arth'r Middleton...	Ashley River, S.C., 1843.	Lawyer.
<i>Georgia.</i>		
Button Gwinnett...	England, 1732.	Farmer.
Lyman Hall...	Connecticut, 1725.	Physician.
George Walton...	Frederick Co., Va., 1740.	Lawyer.

In several instances it has been difficult to state precisely the occupations of the Signers. Take the case of Samuel Adams. He studied for the ministry, was a merchant, and became the ablest writer of his time on public questions. The word "farmer" is used in several places where landed proprietor or planter would be more fit. One case,

a Signer—Roger Sherman, of Connecticut—was a shoemaker until he was 21 years old, and then forsook the bench for the bar. It is difficult to determine just what profession to honor with the name of Richard Henry Lee. Charles Jarroll, of Carrollton, considered the wealthiest man in the colonies, was a lawyer by profession. In regard to the nativities of the Signers it will be understood that, while many were natives of America, their fathers were of European birth. For example, William Hooper, of North Carolina, was born in Boston, and his father was a Scotchman, and the father of George Read was an Irishman. So far as possible the biographies have been carefully consulted, and the table given is believed to be substantially accurate.

#### POPULAR NAMES OF CITIES.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give the sobriquets of the cities of the old countries? R. M. WAITE.

*Answer.*—Almost all the leading cities of Europe and many of those of Asia and Africa have names given them either by a partial population or the world at large. Many of these are very appropriate, others fantastic, while others again are mere by-names, but all more or less popular among their admirers or detractors. The following are some of those best known:

Rome—The Eternal City.  
The Queen of Cities.  
The Seven Hilled City.  
The Nameless City.  
The Mistress of the World.  
Edinburgh—Auld Reekie.  
Edina.  
The Modern or Northern Athens.  
Brussels—The Miniature Paris.  
St. Petersburg—The City of Palaces.  
Berlin—The Capital of Intelligence.  
London—The City of Masts.  
Cockagne.  
Jerusalem—The Holy City.  
The City of the Great King.  
The City of Peace.  
Venice—The Bride of the Sea.  
Florence—The Beautiful.  
Genoa—The Superb.  
Constantinople—The Golden Horn.  
Paris—The City of Luxury.  
Athens—The Eye of Greece.  
The City of the Violet Crown.  
Limerick—The City of the Violated Treaty.  
Galway—The City of the Tribes.  
Leyden—The Athens of the West.  
Antioch—The Queen of the East.  
Leipsic—The City of the Lime Trees.  
Cairo—The City of Victory.  
Gibraltar—The Key of the Mediterranean.  
Baalbec—The City of the Sun.  
Mecca—The Holy City.  
Milan—The Little Paris.

#### THE PANDECTS OF JUSTINIAN.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give us a history of the Pandects of Justinian? F. M. S.

*Answer.*—When Justinian succeeded to the throne of the great Eastern empire, one of his earliest acts was to set about the collection of previous legislative enactments in force at that period. This effort to form a complete system of law from the authoritative commentaries of the jurists upon the laws of Rome, was intrusted to Tribonianus, who formed a body of

seventeen members. These scholars were engaged for about three years selecting, compressing, and systematizing the authorities, comprising more than 2,000 treatises, whose interpretation of the ancient laws of Rome was from that time to be adopted with all the authority of law. In the beginning ten years had been designated as the period necessary to perform this vast service, but so diligent were the assistants of Tribonianus that it was completed in a third of the time. It is related that from the 2,000 treatises referred to there were taken over 9,000 separate extracts. The Pandects are divided into fifty books, and each book is subdivided into parts or titles, under which are arranged the extracts from the various jurists, thirty-nine in number, and have been called the classical jurists, although other writers are cited, but only indirectly. The Pandects or Digests are of great value with reference to the history and literature of ancient Rome, and the part taken by Justinian in the great compilation and codification of the laws of the empire is worthy of all consideration.

#### JUSTUS H. RATHBONE.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a biographical sketch of Justus H. Rathbone, the founder of the order of Knights of Pythias; and his lineage? S. H. RATHBONE.

*Answer.*—Justus Henry Rathbone, founder and Past Supreme Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, was born in the town of Deerfield, Oneida County, New York, Oct. 29, 1839. His father, Justus Hull Rathbone, was a prominent lawyer in the city of Utica, and his mother, Sarah Elizabeth Dwight, was a lineal descendant of Jonathan Edwards. In 1857 he went to the copper regions on Lake Superior, and while teaching school at Eagle Harbor, Mich., during the fall and winter of 1858-'59, first conceived the idea of the Knights of Pythias, and wrote the ritual, taking as his basis John Banim's play of "Damon and Pythias," which had been sent him as stage manager of an amateur dramatic association. He had previously seen the play acted, but was never struck with its peculiar fitness for a fraternal secret society until reading it over alone in the little school room at the Harbor. He was 19 years of age at that time, and was not a member of any secret society. After completing the three ranks of the ritual he folded the manuscript and laid it away, telling no one what he had done. At the breaking out of the war he, with others, formed a company of volunteers, but on account of some informality it was not accepted by the Governor, and its members subsequently enlisted in other portions of the State. The death of his father, about the same time, caused the young pedagogue to return East, and while on a visit to his only sister, at Germantown, Pa., he entered the United States service, and became clerk of the hospital at that place, Robert

Allen Champion being chief steward of the institution. To him Mr. Rathbone first communicated the fact that he had written the Knights of Pythias ritual. Steward Champion thought well of it, and advised that when a favorable opportunity offered an attempt should be made to organize the new society. Shortly after both were transferred to Washington, D. C., and on Monday evening, Feb. 15, 1864, in Mr. Champion's room, in the house No. 369 F street, near the corner of Ninth, Mr. Rathbone first obligated Robert Allen Champion, Edward S. Kimball, David L. Burnett, and W. H. Burnett, and read to them the ritual. It was decided to form the first lodge exclusively among the clerks in the departments, and an adjournment was taken to Friday evening, Feb. 19, at which time Arion Glee Club (of which all but Mr. Champion were members) was to have a meeting for rehearsal in one of the lower rooms of Temperance Hall, on E between Ninth and Tenth streets. The rehearsal was held early, and after it was over those present by invitation (all clerks in the departments except Joseph T. K. Plant) were obligated on a small Bible given Mr. Rathbone by his mother, and they formed Washington Lodge, No. 1, Knights of Pythias. It is not necessary to speak of the history of the order, for its present strength is evidence sufficient of its successful and healthy growth. Mr. Rathbone passed step by step through all the chairs until he attained the position of supreme chancellor, the highest in the gift of the order, and then retired. But he was not permitted to enjoy the quietude he sought. He held a position in the War Department, but inducements were offered him that would bring greater financial results by lecturing to the Pythian lodges throughout the country, and he resigned his clerkship to accept the latter.

#### THE STATE OF FRANKLIN.

INDEPENDENCE, Kan.

Where was the State of Franklin organized, and when and by whom?

J. P. HUBBARD.

*Answer.*—The story of the State of Franklin goes back to a full century ago. In the colonial assembly of North Carolina in 1776, the territory now embraced in the State of Tennessee, was represented by deputies as the district of Washington, and in the struggle for independence the settlers there promptly espoused the cause of the colonists as against England. From 1777 to 1784 the territory constituted a portion of North Carolina. In 1784 the settlers became very much dissatisfied with what they believed to be the unjust and ungenerous treatment they had received from the government of North Carolina. Conventions were held and a separate State government was organized, which is called variously Frankland and Franklin in the documents that have come down to us. The Constitution was ratified by

popular vote, a legislature and a governor were chosen, and it looked for a time as though there would be bloodshed between the new State and that of North Carolina. John Sevier was the first Governor elected. The State of Franklin was maintained for several years, or until what was known as the North Carolina party prevailed, which overthrew in 1788 the Franklin administration. Then there were certain acts of pacification passed by North Carolina, which in 1790 ceded Tennessee to the United States, providing that the inhabitants were to have all the benefits of the Ordinance of 1787, except that slavery was never to be abolished. After that event the growth of Tennessee was assured.

#### THE ZEALOTS.

CHICAGO.

Who were the Zealots recently mentioned in Our Curiosity Shop in an article on the Jewish High Priests?

R.

*Answer.*—The Zealots formed a party among the Jews, whose founder is mentioned in the book of the Acts, fifth chapter, thirty-seventh verse. After the death of Judas the Galilean, the Zealots were led by Eleazar, one of his descendants. They were very radical and literal in their interpretation of holy writ, and contending that God was the only King of Israel, they refused to pay tribute to the Romans and openly rebelled under the leadership of Judas. They were, however, soon dispersed, and became really a band of brigands, and were called Sicarii, from a Latin word meaning a dagger.

#### "ANNIE LAURIE."

Who is the author of "Annie Laurie," and what were the circumstances under which it was written?

LOUIS D. COLLINS.

*Answer.*—The original ballad of "Annie Laurie" was written by a Mr. Douglas, of Fingland, in honor of Anne, one of the four daughters of Sir Robert Laurie, first Baronet of Maxwellton. Sir Robert was created a Baronet in the year 1685, and it is thought that the ballad was composed about the end of the seventeenth century. The verses are wonderfully tender and chaste for the time in which they were written, and are universally popular. It is to be recorded that the author of the beautiful lines was unsuccessful in his suit, as Annie Laurie married a Mr. Ferguson, of Craigdarroch.

#### THE CONGO FREE STATE.

DUSTIN, Neb.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give us a history of the Congo Free State?

L. M. CLEVELAND.

*Answer.*—The development of Central Africa during the past dozen or score of years has been wonderful. Individual effort strongly supplemented by the co-operation of enterprising societies must be given the credit for a large part of this work; the nations of Europe came in after much of the pioneering had been accomplished. One of the earliest of the Euro-

pean rulers to grasp the possibilities of the Dark Continent was King Leopold of Belgium. As shown in Our Curiosity Shop book for the year 1885, the International African Association was first formed in 1876 at the suggestion of King Leopold, who personally contributed funds to sustain its work, and who served as its first President. Stanley's return in 1879 from the Congo Valley gave new interest to the subject of the development of Central Africa, and when Stanley came back in 1884 he suggested the formation of a "free state" from the recently discovered territory, and an appeal was made by the International African Association to the powers that the new state be recognized. The United States promptly responded, and other nations followed. Then an international conference was called by Prince Bismarck, to meet at Berlin Nov. 15, 1884, to fix the boundaries of the Congo Free State, and to adopt laws for the regulation of trade. Within the bounds of the Free State there was to be perfect free trade granted to all nations; slavery was to be antagonized and suppressed, and Christian missions encouraged. The Congo Free State had a constitution devised for it by Professor Ann, and since his decease the work was completed by Colonel Stranch and Sir Travers Twiss. It is in the line of the principles of the British colonial administration. At the head of the State is a governor, and under him are deputy governors presiding over the different districts. The central government is at Brussels, and consists of the heads of the several departments with the King of the Belgians as chief. The Legislature of Belgium voted to place the sovereignty of the Congo Free State under King Leopold individually, the Belgian government and Belgium as a nation having no power or responsibility in relation to the Free State. It should be added that Stanley's services to Christianity in opening up the way to missionaries are very great. He has done in recent years what no other one man has done. The world's debt to Livingstone can not be estimated; but Stanley's labors have been of a different character and during a different period. Africa will continue to be more and more the center of interest among the civilized nations of the world.

#### SOME NATIONAL HYMNS.

##### TOULON, III.

What nations have a national song or hymn, and what are their titles?

MRS. S. H. MCKEIGHAN.

*Answer.*—Among the National songs, hymns, and anthems may be mentioned "America" and the "Star-spangled Banner" of the United States, whose National air, some one has well said, is undoubtedly "Yankee Doodle." Great Britain's anthem, or, more properly, its song or hymn, is "God Save the Queen." The

"Wacht am Rhein" is the companion of the famous "Rhine Song," "Sie sollen ihn nicht haben, den freien deutschen Rhein," and leads the German national songs. The "Marseillaise" of the French is too well known to need more than mention.

#### GEORGIA'S GOVERNORS.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a list of the Governors of the State of Georgia?

WM. A. NEWBRAND.

*Answer.*—The following are the names of the Governors who have served since the adoption of the Constitution:

George Walton.....	1789-90
Edward Telfair.....	1790-93
George Matthews.....	1793-96
Jared Irwin.....	1796-98
James Jackson.....	1798-1801
David Emanuel (acting).....	1801
Josiah Tatnall.....	1801-02
John Milledge.....	1802-06
Jared Irwin.....	1806-09
David B. Mitchell.....	1809-13
Peter Early.....	1813-15
David B. Mitchell.....	1815-17
William Rabun.....	1817-19
Matthew Talbot (acting).....	1819
John Clarke.....	1819-23
George M. Troup.....	1823-27
John Forsyth.....	1827-29
George R. Gilmer.....	1829-31
Wilson Lumpkin.....	1831-35
William Schley.....	1835-37
George R. Gilmer.....	1837-39
Charles J. McDonald.....	1839-43
George W. Crawford.....	1843-47
George W. B. Towns.....	1847-51
Howell Cobb.....	1851-53
Herschell V. Johnson.....	1853-57
Joseph E. Brown.....	1857-65
James Johnson (provisional).....	1865
Charles J. Jenkins.....	1865-67
General T. H. Ruger (provisional).....	1867-68
Rufus Bullock.....	1868-72
James Milton Smith.....	1872-76
Alfred H. Colquitt.....	1876-82
Alexander H. Stephens.....	1882-83
Henry D. McDaniel.....	1883-86
John B. Gordon.....	1886-90

#### THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT.

MARSEILLES, III.

What is the present form of government of Egypt?

G. C. POOLE.

*Answer.*—Egypt is a principality, and is tributary to Turkey. The government is conducted by native ministers, subject to the rulings of the Khedive, and under his supervision. From the accession of Tewfik, the reigning Khedive, or from 1879 to 1883, France and Great Britain exercised a great influence in the conduct of public affairs, because of their interests of a financial character which were involved. In the military revolt in 1882 the people were strongly moved to resist foreign interference or control, but that uprising was crushed by Great Britain's forces, and, as France had done little or nothing to aid in this, that country failed to reap any results when the reconstruction of Egyptian affairs came about. The joint control of France and Great Britain, which followed the uprising of 1882, was succeeded by the single and substantial control of affairs by Great Britain. The Khedive since then has, on the recom-

mentation of Great Britain, appointed a European (that is, a British) financial adviser, who has a voice, but no vote, in the council of ministers, and has no power in matters pertaining to internal administration. In 1884 an organic law was promulgated by the Khedive creating a number of representative institutions based on popular suffrage, with the end in view of conducting the government in a constitutional manner; but of these only that which is called a legislative council has thus far been operative. It consists of thirty members, of whom sixteen are elected and fourteen are appointed by the Khedive; all the general laws have to be submitted to this council, but it rests with the government as to whether or not it follows the advice of the council. The creation of this legislative council is a long step in the direction of a recognition of the right of the people to advise and consent to the acts of the government.

## GOVERNORS OF NEBRASKA.

SALEM, Neb.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give a list of the Governors of Nebraska?  
G. A. JORN.

Answer.—The Governors of Nebraska have been as follows:

TERRITORY.	
Francis Burt.....	1854
T. B. Cuming (acting).....	1854-55
Mark W. Izard.....	1855-58
Wm. A. Richardson.....	1858-58
J. Sterling Morton (acting).....	1858-59
Samuel W. Black.....	1859-61
Alvin Saunders.....	1861-66
David Butler.....	1866-67
STATE.	
David Butler.....	1867-71
Wm. H. James (acting).....	1871-73
Robert W. Furnas.....	1873-75
Eliaz Garber.....	1875-79
Albinus Nance.....	1879-83
James W. Dawes.....	1883-87
John M. Thayer.....	1887-91

## THE CAPITOL AT WASHINGTON.

PERLEE, Iowa.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop describe the Capitol at Washington, and give a history of it?  
A. D.

Answer.—The site of the Capitol at Washington, D. C., was selected by President Washington in the original plans of the city, and it was decided in the summer of 1791. Among those who took an active interest in its location and construction was Thomas Jefferson, who, when abroad, had collected drawings of some of the most celebrated buildings in Europe, which were valuable in determining the character of the great National edifice. A plan was prepared by Dr. William Thornton, of Pennsylvania, and, after material changes, it was approved by Washington and submitted to Stephen Hallet, a French architect, to whom was entrusted its execution. On Sept. 18, 1793, the corner-stone of the edifice (southeast corner) was laid by Brother George Washington, assisted by the Worshipful Masters and Free Masons of the surrounding cities and the military and a large number of people. The silver plate de-

posited in the cavity of the stone bore the following inscription:

This southeast corner-stone of the Capitol of the United States of America, in the City of Washington, was laid on the 18th day of September, 1793, in the thirteenth year of American Independence, in the first year of the second term of the Presidency of George Washington, whose virtues in the civil administration of his country have been as conspicuous and beneficial, as his military valor and prudence have been useful, in establishing her liberties, and in the year of Masonry 5793, by the President of the United States, in concert with the Grand Lodge of Maryland, several lodges under its jurisdiction, and Lodge No. 22 from Alexandria, Virginia.

Thomas Johnson, David Stewart, and Daniel Carroll, Commissioners; Joseph Clarke, R. W. G. M. P. T.; James Hoban and Stephen Hallet, Architects; Collin Williamson, M. Mason.

The Grand Master, P. T., Joseph Clarke, delivered an oration, during which at intervals there were fired volleys by the artillery. The ceremony closed with prayer, Masonic chanting honors, and a National salute of fifteen guns. President Washington wore the apron and full regalia of a Mason. The gavel used was of ivory, and it is still preserved by Lodge No. 9, of Georgetown. At the conclusion of the dedicatory exercises the vast crowds took part in a barbecue arranged for the occasion in the East Park. The north wing of the Capitol was ready for occupation in 1800. In the completed wing the Senate on the west side, the House of Representatives on the east, and the Supreme Court in the basement, first held their sessions. A number of changes were made at various times in the Capitol, from 1803 when R. H. Latrobe was appointed architect of the Capitol, until the recent improvements on that part of the great structure fronting Pennsylvania avenue. The carrying out of the modifications in the plans occupied some time, and the south wing was in readiness for the occupation of Congress in 1811, but the central portions were not finished, and during the war of 1812 work was suspended, and in 1814 the interior of both wings was destroyed by the British, after which Congress met in various buildings until the restoration of the wing in the original Capitol in 1827. After the visitation and destructive work of the British in 1814, there were most acrimonious debates in Congress in regard to its reconstruction; finally that body decided to restore the Capitol, and in 1818 Charles Bulfinch, as successor to R. H. Latrobe, began in the central portion of the building, including the rotunda and library, which were completed in 1827. The plans of Latrobe, with some slight changes, were carried out, and the entire structure, with terraces and grounds, was completed in thirteen years, at a cost, including alterations, repairs, etc., and improve-

ment of grounds, to 1851, when the extensions were added, of \$2,690,459.21. In September, 1850, Congress passed an act authorizing the extension of the Capitol, and Thomas U. Walter, the architect of Girard College, at Philadelphia, submitted a plan to President Fillmore in June, 1851, which was accepted, and the corner-stone of this extension was laid on July 4, 1851. Daniel Webster was the orator of the day. The following is a copy of the record deposited beneath the corner-stone.

On the morning of the first day of the seventy-sixth year of the Independence of the United States of America, in the City of Washington, being the 4th day of July, 1851, this stone, designated as the corner-stone of the extension of the Capitol, according to a plan approved by the President, in pursuance of an act of Congress, was laid, Millard Fillmore, President of the United States, assisted as Grand Master of the Masonic Lodges, in the presence of many members of Congress; of officers of the executive and judiciary departments, National, State, and District; of officers of the Army and Navy; the corporate authorities of this and neighboring cities; many associations, civil and military, and Masonic; officers of the Smithsonian Institution and National Institute; professors of colleges and teachers of schools of the District of Columbia, with their students and pupils; and a vast concourse of people from places near and remote, including a few surviving gentlemen who witnessed the laying of the corner-stone of the Capitol by President Washington on the eighteenth day of September, seventeen hundred and ninety-three.

If, therefore, it shall be hereafter the will of God that this structure shall fall from its base, that its foundation be upturned and this deposit brought to the eye of men, be it known that, on this day, the Union of the United States of America stands firm; that their Constitution still exists unimpaired, and with all its original usefulness and glory, growing every day stronger and stronger in the affections of the great body of the American people, and attracting more and more the admiration of the world. And all here assembled, whether belonging to public life or private life, with hearts devoutly thankful to Almighty God for the preservation of the liberty and happiness of the country, unite in sincere and fervent prayers that this deposit, and the walls and arches, the domes and towers, the columns and entablatures, now to be erected over it, may endure forever!

God save the United States of America!

DANIEL WEBSTER,

Secretary of State of the United States.

Congress in the year 1855 authorized the removal of the dome and the construction of a new one to be of iron; the first dome was built of wood. There was a fire in 1851 and the interior of the library of Congress was consumed; the dome was in danger, and it was removed in 1856. The present dome, which is of iron, was built and finished in 1865. The work on the Capitol was

continued during the war. At noon Dec. 12, 1863, the statue of Freedom which surmounts the dome was placed in position, and the United States flag was spread to the breeze in the presence of thousands, and a National salute of thirty-five guns was fired. The new hall of the south extension was occupied by the House of Representatives Dec. 16, 1857, and that of the north extension by the Senate Jan. 4, 1858. The Capitol has cost about \$13,000,000.

#### GREENLAND'S ICY MOUNTAINS.

LAGRANGE, Ind.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give us a sketch of Greenland, its inhabitants, their mode of living, etc?

R. DRAKE.

*Answer.*—Some idea may be had of that great continental island we call Greenland when we consider that it is about 1,400 miles long by about 700 across at the widest part, and with its coast-lying islands is estimated to have an area of about 540,000 square miles, or five times the size of California and three times as large as Texas. The east coast is practically inaccessible because of the ice, and the interior is one desert of ice and snow, that have been accumulating for centuries. The rocks along the coast are for the most part granite, gneiss, porphyry, slate, and limestone. The west coast is gradually wearing away, and Greenlanders do not build very near the water's edge. In portions of Greenland there have been found the remains of extinct tropical plants. Coal is mined on some of the coast islands and minerals are numerous, but the only mineral exported is cryolite, which is a fluoride of sodium and aluminum, and which is made into commercial salt in this country. The climate of southern and western Greenland is less rigorous than might be supposed, and the Danes, to whom the country belongs, consider it is healthy. The seasons are very short. The snow begins to fall in August and by the month of October there are usually fully three feet, and then the cold sets in very severe. From April to August fogs prevail; gales are frequent in the autumn, and there is lightning but no thunder; the aurora borealis is often seen in winter so bright as to obscure the stars. Vegetation is very slight; mosses, lichens, and a few grasses and dwarf shrubs and plants grow even in the far north and furnish the food of the reindeer, bear, and musk ox. The soil is so filled with fibrous roots that it is often out and dried as peat is cut and dried and used for fuel. Potatoes and radishes are grown, but other crops that have been tried have proved a failure. The large animals are the dog, fox, wolf, white bear, ermine, walrus, seal, the arctic hare, the reindeer, musk ox, several kinds of whale, and shark; small fish and sea fowl abound, the eider duck being in the number. The government of Greenland



in the number. The government of Greenland is, Danish, and has been for generations; it is controlled at Copenhagen by a government board, and Greenland is divided into what are called inspectorates, and these in turn are divided into districts; each inspectorate has its governor, and each district its chief, the whole being managed or superintended thoroughly and according to a plan; the districts have their dependent trading settlements, about sixty in number, and these collect the products from 176 inhabited places. The Moravians and Lutherans divide the territory with their missions. In 1884 there were 9,780 inhabitants reported. Upernivik, Greenland, is the most northern town in North America.

#### THIRTEENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

HOOPERSTON, Ill.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a history of the Thirteenth Illinois Infantry Volunteers?

G. W. FIKES.

*Answer.*—The Thirteenth was one of the regiments organized under the act known as the Ten Regiment Bill. The companies of which it was composed came from the following locations: I from Cook County, H from Kane, K from DuPage, E and F from DeKalb, A and C from Lee, B and G from Whiteside, and D from Rock Island County. John B. Wyman, of Amboy, and Adam B. Gorgas, of Dixon, served as colonel. The regiment was mustered into the State service April 21, and into the United States service May 24, 1861, for three years or during the war, by Captain John Pope of the Regular Army, at Camp Dement, Dixon, Ill. It went to Caseyville, Ill., in June, and in July to Rolla, Mo., where it remained until the spring of 1862. The regiment was known as Fremont's Grey Hounds, a name given it by General Fremont himself the evening it joined his army at Bolivar, in fine shape, after a day's march of forty-two miles. In 1862 it joined General Curtis' army at Pea Ridge, and accompanied that officer in his memorable march from Pea Ridge to Helena, Ark. It was with General Sherman in the attack on Chickasaw Bayou, and then became a part of the Fifteenth Army Corps, commanded so long by General Sherman in person. Colonel Wyman was killed in the first day's assault at Chickasaw Bayou. It was a part of F. P. Blair's brigade on the day following and distinguished itself. It was present at Arkansas Post; was part of General Steele's division in the raid on Greenville, Miss., and up Dear Creek; participated in the battles in the rear of Vicksburg and in the capture of Jackson, and was with Sherman's corps on the right of the army during the siege of Vicksburg. It accompanied Sherman in his chase of General Joe Johnston, and then went to Chattanooga, where it was with Osterhaus' division at Missionary Ridge, where it captured 2,500 prisoners, and received high

credit for its services there. As the time of the Thirteenth was nearly out it was not taken on the march to the sea, but left to guard the communications. On June 18, 1864, it was mustered out at Springfield, Ill., having served three years and two months.

#### THE CASE OF SENATOR WALKER.

ROYALTON, Wis.

Why did the Legislature of Wisconsin instruct United States Senator Isaac P. Walker to resign?

GEORGE E. MOORE.

*Answer.*—The period was that which preceded the famous compromise measures of 1850. In the United States Senate the attitude of the South on the slavery issue was very threatening. One of the most lucid statements as to the course of Senator Walker, of Wisconsin, in reference to the discussion is made by Vice President Wilson in his great work on the "Rise and Fall of the Slave Power," as follows: "On the 8th of March, Mr. Walker, of Wisconsin, who had yielded the floor to Mr. Webster on the previous day, addressed the Senate. He had been chosen an anti-slavery, Wilmot-proviso Democrat. But he had become alarmed by the wild clamors that filled the land, and was more than half persuaded to allow what he thought were the claims of patriotism to override those of justice and humanity, should they come in conflict. At any rate he made a most passionate appeal in behalf of the Union, while his imprecations upon those who would lay sacrilegious hands upon this ark of the Nation's safety were violent and fearful. He said:

May he who takes the first step toward this horrid consummation suffer through life all the tortures of despair and wretchedness! May sight forsake his eye and hearing his ears! May leprous scales cling to his wretched carcass, while disease, want and hunger, thirst and cold, feed upon his vitals! And in his last hour may he have no kindly hand to smooth his pillow, no kindred smile to light his exit to the grave! Nay, sir, may he have no pillow on which to die, no grave in which to repose! And in the dread tribunal of eternity may he barely merit the mediatorial interposition of Jesus at the throne of God! For such a wretch the Savior scarcely died. This, sir, is my curse for the would-be destroyer of this Union and Republic. If he be in this chamber—which I can not believe—the curse is for him; and if I could add to my tongue the sting of the scorpion, the fire that is never quenched, the gall that is persistent through eternity, I would make that curse more poignant, more burning, more bitter.

Mr. Wilson continues: "Thus passionately and wildly did this Northern Senator and his friends of compromise talk, as, with threats and imprecations and appeals to patriotism and peace, they darkened and incumbered the path of those who sought, by adherence to principles rather than by bowing the knee to slavery, their country's safety and sure prosperity. This weakness of the Wisconsin was promptly and

sternly rebuked by the Legislature of his State."

#### GOVERNORS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

St. JOSEPH, Mich.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a list of the Governors of the State of Massachusetts?

WILLIAM A. NEWBRAND.

*Answer.*—The history of Massachusetts forms so large a part of the history of New England, and indeed of the United States, that no list of its chief executives would be complete which omitted either the Colonial or Constitutional Governors.

#### PLYMOUTH COLONY, ELECTED:

John Carver.....	1620-21
William Bradford.....	1621-33
Edward Winslow.....	1633-34
Thomas Frence.....	1634-35
William Bradford.....	1635-36
Edward Winslow.....	1636-37
William Bradford.....	1637-38
Thomas Frence.....	1638-39
William Bradford.....	1639-44
Edward Winslow.....	1644-45
William Bradford.....	1645-47
Thomas Frence.....	1647-73
Josiah Winslow.....	1673-81
Thomas Hinckley.....	1681-86
Sir Edward Andros (Governor General).....	1684-89
Thomas Hinckley.....	1689-92

#### GOVERNORS OF MASSACHUSETTS CHOSEN UNDER FIRST CHARTER.

John Endicott.....	1629-30
Matthew Cradock (did not serve).....	
John Winthrop.....	1630-34
Thomas Dudley.....	1634-35
John Haynes.....	1635-36
Henry Vane.....	1636-37
John Winthrop.....	1637-40
Thomas Dudley.....	1640-41
Richard Bellingham.....	1641-42
John Winthrop.....	1642-44
John Endicott.....	1644-45
Thomas Dudley.....	1645-46
John Winthrop.....	1646-49
John Endicott.....	1649-50
Thomas Dudley.....	1650-51
John Endicott.....	1651-54
Richard Bellingham.....	1654-55
John Endicott.....	1655-55
Richard Bellingham.....	1655-73
John Leverett.....	1673-79
Simon Bradstreet.....	1679-84
Joseph Dudley, President.....	1684-86
Sir Edmond Andros, (Governor General).....	1686-89
Thomas Danforth (acting).....	1689-92

#### GOVERNORS APPOINTED BY THE KING UNDER THE SECOND CHARTER.

Sir William Phipps.....	1692-94
William Stoughton.....	1694-99
Richard Coote (Earl of Bellamont).....	1699-1700
William Stoughton (acting).....	1700-01
The Council.....	1701-02
Joseph Dudley.....	1702-15
The Council.....	1715
Joseph Dudley.....	1715
William Tailer (acting).....	1715-16
Samuel Shute.....	1716-23
William Dummer.....	1723-28
William Burnett.....	1728
William Dummer (acting).....	1728-30
William Tailer (acting).....	1730
Jonathan Belcher.....	1730-41
William Shirley.....	1731-49
Spencer Phips (acting).....	1749-53
William Shirley.....	1753-56
Spencer Phips (acting).....	1756-57
The Council.....	1757
Thomas Pownall.....	1757-60
Thomas Hutchinson (acting).....	1760
Sir Francis Bernard.....	1760-69
Thomas Hutchinson (acting).....	1769-71
Thomas Hutchinson.....	1771-74
Thomas Gage.....	1774

Provincial Congress.....October, 1774-July, 1775  
The Council.....1775-80

#### GOVERNORS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION

John Hancock.....	1780-85
James Bowdoin.....	1785-87
John Hancock.....	1787-93
Samuel Adams (acting).....	1793-94
Samuel Adams.....	1794-97
Increase Sumner.....	1797-99
Moses Gill (acting).....	1799-1800
Caleb Strong.....	1800-07
James Sullivan.....	1807-08
Livi Lincoln (acting).....	1808-09
Christopher Gore.....	1809-10
Elbridge Gerry.....	1810-12
Caleb Strong.....	1812-16
John Brooks.....	1816-23
William Eustis.....	1823-25
Marcus Morton (acting).....	February-July 1825
Levi Lincoln.....	1825-34
John Davis.....	1834-35
Samuel Armstrong (acting).....	1835-36
Edward Everett.....	1836-40
Marcus Morton.....	1840-41
John Davis.....	1841-43
Marcus Morton.....	1843-44
George N. Briggs.....	1844-51
George S. Boutwell.....	1851-53
John H. Clifford.....	1853-54
Emory Washburn.....	1854-55
Henry J. Gardner.....	1855-59
Nathaniel P. Banks.....	1859-61
John A. Andrew.....	1861-66
Alexander H. Bullock.....	1866-69
William Claflin.....	1869-72
William B. Washburn.....	1872-74
Thomas Talbot (acting).....	May-December, 1874
William Gaston.....	1874-76
Alexander H. Rice.....	1876-79
Thomas Talbot.....	1879-80
John D. Long.....	1880-83
Benjamin F. Butler.....	1883-84
George D. Robinson.....	1884-87
Oliver Ames.....	1887-90
J. Q. A. Bartlett.....	1890-91

#### "A WIFE'S PRAYER."

ELKHART LAKE, Wis.

Where can I get a copy of "A Wife's Prayer," published some years since? FARMER.

*Answer.*—For the following reply to this inquiry Our Curiosity Shop is indebted to a valued Wisconsin reader:

Lord! bless and preserve that dear person whom Thou hast chosen to be my husband: let his life be long and blessed, comfortable and holy, and let me also become a great blessing and comfort unto him, a sharer in all his sorrows, a meet-helper in all the accidents and changes in the world. Make me amiable forever in his eyes, and forever dear to him. Unite his heart to me in the dearest love and holiness, and mine to him in all sweetness, charity, and compliance. Keep me from all ungentleness, all discontentedness, and unreasonableness of passion and humor, and make me humble and obedient, useful and observant, that we may delight in each other according to Thy blessed word, and both of us may rejoice in Thee, having our portion in the love and service of God forever. Amen.

#### THE WAR GOVERNORS.

CERRO GORDO, Ill.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a list of the War Governors, or, if too long, the most important ones? DAVID HECKMAN.

*Answer.*—In its generally accepted meaning, the term "War Governors" means those who served during the war for the Union and supported by herculean and distinguished

labors the cause of the Union as against the efforts and arms of the slaveholding secessionists. In the broad sense, and that in which it is here used, the "War Governors" were those who served in all the loyal States during the slavery struggle. The services they rendered the country can never be fully acknowledged by their States, and the names of Yates and Kirkwood, Morton and Andrew, Curtin and Ramsey, Oglesby and Randall, Morgan and Fenton, Dennison and Fairchild will long be remembered. The following are the names of those who served their States as Governor during the war period:

California.....	Leland Stanford. Frederick F. Low.
Connecticut.....	William A. Buckingham.
Delaware.....	William Burton. William Cannon. Gove Saulsbury.
Illinois.....	Richard Yates. Richard J. Oglesby.
Indiana.....	Henry S. Lane. Oliver P. Morton.
Iowa.....	Samuel J. Kirkwood. William M. Stone.
Kansas.....	Thomas Carney. Samuel J. Crawford.
Maine.....	Israel Washburn, Jr. Abner Coburn. Samuel Cony.
Maryland.....	Aug. W. Bradford.
Massachusetts.....	John A. Andrew.
Michigan.....	Austin Blair. Henry H. Crapo.
Minnesota.....	Alexander Ramsey. Stephen Miller. William R. Marshall.
New Hampshire.....	Ichabod Goodwin. Nathaniel Berry. Joseph A. Gilmore.
New Jersey.....	Frederick Smyth. Charles S. Olden. Joel Parker.
New York.....	Marcus L. Ward. Edwin D. Morgan. Horatio Seymour. Reuben Fenton.
Ohio.....	William Dennison. David Todd. John Brough. Jacob D. Cox.
Oregon.....	Addison C. Gibbs.
Pennsylvania.....	Andrew G. Curtin.
Rhode Island.....	William Sprague. James Y. Smith.
Vermont.....	Erastus Fairbanks. Frederick Holbrook. J. Gregory Smith. Paul Dillingham.
West Virginia.....	Arthur I. Boreman.
Wisconsin.....	Alexander W. Randall. Edward Salomon. James T. Lewis. Lucius Fairchild.

#### "ON THE BROKEN ARCH OF LONDON BRIDGE."

ALBION, Iowa.

Somewhere in Macaulay's writings, while speaking of the Roman Catholic Church, he says: "She was great and respected when Grecian eloquence still felt young in Antioch, and when idols were still worshiped in America; and she will be respected when some traveler from far Iceland, sitting upon some broken arch of London Bridge shall sketch the ruins of St. Paul's Cathedral," or something like it. Can you tell me where to find it?

G. W. B.

*Answer.*—In Macaulay's review of "Ranke's History of the Popes," the following occurs:

She (the Roman Catholic Church) may still exist

in undiminished vigor, when some traveler from New Zealand shall, in the midst of a vast solitude, take his stand on a broken arch of London Bridge to sketch the ruins of St. Paul's.

In the year 1824 Macaulay employed the same figure in the closing paragraph of a review of Mitford's Greece, and he repeated it in his review of Mill's "Essay on Government" in 1829:

Who knows but that hereafter some traveler like myself will sit down upon the banks of the Seine, the Thames, or the Zuyder Zee, where now, in the tumult of enjoyment, the heart and the eyes are too slow to take in the multitude of sensations! Who knows but he will sit down solitary amid silent ruins, and weep a people ruined and their greatness changed into an empty name?

Horace Walpole, in the "Letter to Mason," dated Nov. 24, 1774, says:

At last some curious traveler from Lima will visit England, and give a description of the ruins of St. Paul's like the editions of Baalbec and Palmyra.

The gifted young poet, Henry Kirk White, wrote:

Where now is Britain?

\* \* \* \* \*

Even as the savage sits upon the stone  
That marks where stood her capitol, and hears  
The bitter booming in the weeds he shrinks,  
From the dismaying solitude.

And Shelley finds expression for the same image:

In the firm expectation, that when London shall be an habitation of bitterns, when St. Paul and Westminster Abbey shall stand shapeless and nameless ruins in the midst of an unpeopled marsh; when the piers of Waterloo Bridge shall become the nuclei of islets of reeds and osiers, and cast the jagged shadows of their broken arches in the solitary stream, some Transatlantic commentator will be weighing in the scales of some new and now unimagined system of criticism the respective merits of the Bells and the Fudges and their historians.

#### COLONIAL FREEMEN WERE CHURCH MEMBERS.

ROCKFORD, ILL.

In early colonial days the male inhabitants were made freemen. What was this for? Was it necessary for a man to be a church member to be a freeman, or vice versa?

PIERCE.

*Answer.*—"The church members alone were freemen," says Bancroft (chapter ix. History of the United States). In the first constitution of Connecticut, adopted by the inhabitants in 1638-9, it was provided that the public officers should be elected "by all that are admitted freemen." In 1639, at New Haven, the question was put "whether free burghesses shall be chosen out of church members, they that are in the foundation work of the church being actually free burghesses, and to choose to themselves out of the like estate of church fellowship, and the power of choosing magistrates and officers from among themselves, and the power of making and repealing laws according to their word, and the

dividing of inheritances, and deciding of differences that may arise, and all the businesses of like nature are to be transacted by those free burgesses"—this question "was put to vote and agreed unto by the lifting up of hands twice." It should perhaps here be explained that the word burgess, thus used, meant an inhabitant of a borough or town or one who possessed a tenement therein, or a citizen or freeman of a borough. From a publication made in 1656, we learn in regard to the New Haven colony "that none shall be admitted freemen, or free burgesses within this jurisdiction, or any part of it, but such planters who are members of some one, or other of the approved churches of New England; nor shall any but such be chosen to magistracy, or to carry on any part of civil judicature, or as deputies or assistants to have power, or vote in establishing laws, or in making or repealing orders, or to any chief military office, or trust, nor shall any others, but such church members, have any vote in any such elections. Though all others admitted to be planters, have right to their proper inheritance, and doe and shall enjoy all other civil liberties and privileges, according to all laws, orders, or grants, which are, or hereafter shall be made for this colony. That all such freemen of this jurisdiction, shall yearly without any summons, upon the election day, which is to be the last fourth day of the week, commonly called Wednesday, in May (till by the generall court some other time be ordered and published), either in person, or by proxy, attend that service. And according to their best light from the word of God, shall vote in the election of Governour, Deputy Governour, Magistrates, Commissioners for the United Colonies, Treasurer, Secretary, Marshall, or any other officer then chosen for the jurisdiction. And for the ease of said freemen (especially such as dwell remote) it is agreed, That when any of them can not conveniently come they may send their votes, either written or in some other way sealed up, in the presence of the rest of the freemen in the plantation where they dwell, or the greater part of them. And further, if any of them purposing to be present at the election, when the other votes are sealed up, should after be hindered, and then want opportunity to seale up his vote, in the presence of the major part of the freemen, in such case may seale it up in the presence of two such freemen as knew he sent no vote before, and (upon their testimony or certificate) it shall be accepted, that so the liberty of the freemen may be preserved, they may have means to attend their duty, and their votes may be directed according to their particular light. And the said freemen may at the election court yearly choose so many magistrates for the jurisdiction in each plantation, as the weight

of affaires shall require, and as they shall there find freemen fit for such a trust; provided that when any man of what plantation soever, shall be first propounded for magistracy within this jurisdiction, seasonable notice shalbe first given to all the plantations of such a purpose, or desire, that all the freemen m y duly consider or informe themselves, and that such as cannot be present, but send their votes, may proceed accordingly, and that each freeman whether present or absent, at the election, may the better improve his liberty, It is ordered, that he may give or send his vote, as he finds cause, either in the affirmative, by putting in an Indian corn, or in the negative, by putting in a beane, or in such other manner, as the generall court shall judge more convenient." The first legislative body that met in America, that of Virginia, at Jamestown, July 30, 1619, was elected by all the male inhabitants. From 1670 the Virginia colony provided that suffrage should be restricted to "freeholders and housekeepers," because "the usual way of choosing burgesses had been by vote of all persons, who, having served their time, are freemen of this country," and was productive of disturbances among the people. All the male inhabitants comprised the first legislative body at Plymouth in 1620; but eleven years afterward it was decreed "that no man should be admitted to the body politic but such as are members of some of the churches within the limits of the same." In Massachusetts in 1634 it was ordered by the court "that none but freemen should have any vote in any town."

#### "THE BURIAL MARCH OF DUNDEE."

SANNEMIN, III.

Would like an account of the occasion on which "The Burial March of Dundee" was written, who was the author, etc.

A. T. BOYS.

*Answer.*—John Graham, or Græne, of Claverhouse, or Claver'se, Viscount Dundee, was born in 1643. He is one of the most widely known and most cordially execrated leaders of the Stuart cause in all Scotland. After service for the French and Dutch, he returned in 1678 to Scotland, and began the cruel oppression of the Scottish Covenanters which has given his name the unenviable fame that is inseparably connected with it. Varying fortune attended his rapacious soldiery, and when William and Mary came to the throne of England he raised the standard in the North against them in behalf of James, whose strong partisan he was. He was killed at the Pass of Killcrankie, July 27, 1689, in the hour of victory. Sir Walter Scott, usually an admirer of the Cavaliers rather than the Covenanters thus speaks of Claverhouse: "This remarkable person united the seemingly inconsistent qualities of courage and cruelty, a disinterested and devoted loyalty to his prince with a disregard of the

rights of his fellow subjects." The poem, "The Burial March of Dundee," was written by Wm. E. Aytoun, a Scottish poet, whose poetry is for the most part colored to throw the Cavalier class into the bright light and the reformers and Covenanters into the deeper shadow. "The Burial March," like all of Aytoun's poetry, is martial, spirited, and has about it the ring of arms and the flutter of banners. The poem begins:

Sound the fife and cry the slogan—  
Let the pibroch shake the air  
With its wild triumphal music,  
Worthy of the freight we bear.  
Let the ancient hills of Scotland  
Hear once more the battle song  
Swell within the glens and valleys  
As the clansmen march along!  
Never from the field of combat,  
Never from the deadly fray,  
Was a nobler trophy carried  
Than we bring with us to-day.

#### ADMIRAL DAVID G. FARRAGUT.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a brief history of David G. Farragut?  
BGO. Kan.  
B. O. WATERS.

*Answer.*—Admiral David G. Farragut was a native of the State of Tennessee, having been born at Campbell Station, near Knoxville, on July 5, 1801. His father was born in the Balearic Islands, which belong to Spain, and on his mother's side he came from a sturdy Scotch family; to these may be traced many of the distinguishing traits in the character of the great admiral. When a mere lad he was appointed a midshipman through the influence of Commodore David Porter, and was on the famous Essex when that vessel captured the British ship *Alert*, and also in the three hours' fight in the Bay of Valparaiso, March 28, 1814, before the Essex surrendered to the *Phoebe* and the *Cherub*, and was commended for his bravery by Commodore Porter. In the year 1823 he participated in the fight between Commodore Porter's forces and the pirates, who had strongly intrenched themselves at Camp Cruz, Cuba, which lasted for twelve hours, and resulted in the defeat of the buccaneers and the destruction of their boats and settlement; this battle put an end to piracy in the West Indies. In the year 1825 he was commissioned a lieutenant, and the succeeding fifteen years he spent in mastering his profession and in cruising about from one place to another in the American ships of war. He became a commander in 1841, and a captain in 1855. When the war for the Union was precipitated by the slaveholders' rebellion he was 60 years of age, and he was at Norfolk, Va. The secessionists held out every inducement to him to join them, but, although he was intimately connected with the South by birth, marriage, and residence, he declined, and after taking his family to Hastings on the Hudson, he hastened to offer his sword and

services to the government. For some nine months he remained comparatively inactive, and then he was chosen to command the expedition for the capture of New Orleans and the opening up of the Mississippi River. He received these orders Jan. 20, 1862, and in two weeks was under way in his flag-ship, the *Hartford*. The victory at New Orleans was recognized by Congress passing a vote of thanks and in Farragut being made a rear admiral. In the summer of 1862 he ran the Vicksburg batteries up and down the river, and on March 14, 1863, he passed the fearful fire of the forts at Port Hudson; in May of the same year, in conjunction with the army, he began active operations against Port Hudson, until it fell, on July 9. After a much needed rest he was intrusted with the fleet, in 1864, sent to reduce the rebel works and forces in and around Mobile, which fell before him. In December, 1864, he was made vice admiral, and once more was voted the thanks of Congress. In the year 1866 Congress created the grade of admiral for him, and a grateful people saw one of the great men of the Union honored by having it conferred upon him. In the years 1867 and 1868 he commanded the European squadron, and wherever he touched in this his last cruise he was received with distinguished consideration. His health, which for some time had been somewhat broken by his arduous labors, began to show decided signs of failing, and on Aug. 14, 1870, after a long and painful illness, he expired at Portsmouth, N. H.

#### WOOD'S MUSEUM, CHICAGO.

FRANKFORT, Mich.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give a descriptive history of Colonel Wood's old Museum, Chicago?  
C. B.

*Answer.*—This well-known museum had its inception in the summer of 1863. The original collection of curiosities was made by Edward Wyman. On Aug. 17, 1863, the rooms obtained at Nos. 111, 113, 115, and 117 Randolph street were opened under the new management. Besides the museum and a hall of paintings, there was in the rear an exhibition hall where for a time a panorama of the city of London was unrolled. There was a general charge of 25 cents admission to the museum and hall of paintings, and an additional fee of 15 cents to the exhibition. It is related by the historian of the day that so popular and well patronized was the museum that in the first six weeks of its career it entertained not fewer than 10,000 visitors. Then followed the fitting up of the exhibition hall for concerts, and Mme. Anne Bishop sang there. The "Ghosts" appeared, and was a popular and paying delusion for a time. In November, 1863, the management (under John O'Mellen) opened a season of opera, with the Holman Troupe, in "The Bohemian Girl," and then followed the

Ravel Troupe of pantomimists. The drama was inaugurated at the Museum, Dec. 14, 1863, by J. W. Lanerger, with a stock company, and the first play presented was "The Lady of Lyons," followed by "Still Waters Run Deep," "The Honeymoon," and other well-known plays. On Jan. 25, 1864, Colonel J. H. Wood became the proprietor, and by his name the place was known until the fire, excepting in 1870 and a part of 1871. Many curiosities were added to the museum, and the great Zengliodon—a fossil relic ninety-six feet in length—had living companions such as a sea lion from Barnum's collection and other congenial associates. Colonel Wood added Kingsbury's halls to his establishment, and therein were given dramatic entertainments which became quite a feature; there were three tiers of seats, called respectively the parquette, dress circle, and the gallery; four small boxes were built at the sides of the stage, which, naively says a chronicler of the time, "were comfortable when once safely reached." This was opened March 22, 1864, with a stock company, under the management of A. D. Bradley. In the company were Frank E. Aiken and John Dillon, and the play was "The Lady of Lyons," as before. In 1868 Frank Aiken leased the museum, and retired in January, 1869, to take the management of the Dearborn Street Theater, and was followed by John W. Blaisdell. For a time there was minstrelsy, and in March, 1869, Wood's was reopened with a stock company, among whom were McKee Rankin, J. W. Jennings, and A. D. Bradley in the play "School." In November, 1869, Aiken returned, announced that he was the proprietor and manager, and the name was changed from Wood's to Aiken's; he was in turn succeeded by Colonel Wood in June, 1871, who once more gave his name to the museum. The play "Divorce" was billed for Oct. 9, 1871, but the great fire came, and Wood's Museum was no more.

#### "CURFEW MUST NOT RING TO-NIGHT."

GIBARD, Crawford County, Kansas.

Who wrote the poem "Curfew Will Not Ring To-night," and how long ago was it written?

H. G. LITTLE.

*Answer.*—The author of the popular poem, "Curfew Must Not Ring To-Night," is Mrs. Rose Hartwick Thorpe. This lady has been living in the South and Southwest for some time for the benefit of the health of her husband, and recently we were informed that the family think of removing to Southern California for Mrs. Thorpe's health. From a sketch of her we learn that Mrs. Thorpe is now a woman of 39 years of age, and that the well-known poem was written by her when she was scarcely 17. It is related that all she received for it was a letter of thanks from the editor of a Detroit newspaper to whom

she sent the verses. Mrs. Thorpe is a native of Indiana and passed her childhood in great poverty. She says: "Of all dull, prosaic lives mine was the dullest and most prosaic." When she wrote "Curfew" she had no particular education and no general knowledge of books, though she afterward applied herself to them and became a school teacher. But even during her early married life it was more important to her reputation among her neighbors that she should "keep house" in approved fashion than that she should write well, and she remarks: "Until the year 1880 I was laundressmaid, cook, seamstress, and nurse for my children."

#### RHODE ISLAND'S GOVERNORS.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a list of the Governors of the State of Rhode Island?

WILLIAM A. NEWBRAND.

*Answer.*—The following is a list of the Governors of the State of Rhode Island:

Nicholas Cooke.....	1775-78
William Greene, Jr.....	1778-86
John Collins.....	1786-90
Arthur Fenner.....	1790-1805
Paul Mumford (acting).....	1805
Henry Smith (acting).....	1805-06
Isaac Wilbur (acting).....	1806-07
James Fenner.....	1807-11
William Jones.....	1811-17
Nehemiah R. Knight.....	1817-21
William C. Gibbs.....	1821-24
James Fenner.....	1824-31
Lemuel H. Arnold.....	1831-33
John B. Francis.....	1833-38
William Sprague.....	1838-39
Samuel W. King.....	1839-43
James Fenner.....	1843-45
Charles Jackson.....	1845-46
Byron Diman.....	1846-47
Elisha Harris.....	1847-49
Henry B. Anthony.....	1849-51
Philip Allen.....	1851-52
William B. Lawrence (acting).....	1852
Philip Allen.....	1852-53
Francis M. Dimond (acting).....	1853-54
William W. Hoppin.....	1854-57
Elisha Dyer.....	1857-59
Thomas G. Turner.....	1859-60
William Sprague.....	1860-61
John R. Bartlett (acting).....	1861-62
William C. Cozzens (acting).....	1863
James Y. Smith.....	1863-66
Ambrose E. Burnside.....	1866-69
Beth Padelford.....	1869-73
Henry Howard.....	1873-75
Henry Lippitt.....	1875-77
Charles C. Van Zandt.....	1877-80
Alfred H. Littlefield.....	1880-83
Augustus O. Bowen.....	1883-85
George P. Wetmore.....	1885-87
John W. Davis.....	1887-88
Royal C. Taft.....	1888-89
H. W. Ladd.....	1889-90

#### KING HUMBERT, OF ITALY.

STURGEON BAY, Wis.

Would like a sketch of King Humbert, of Italy.

QUEEN MARGARET.

*Answer.*—King Humbert (Umberto), the eldest son of the late King Victor Emanuel and of Archduchess Adelaide, of Austria, was born March 14, 1844. He took a deep interest while quite young in the political movements of Italy. A word in regard to Italian unification will aid in comprehending fully the situation there during the past thirty years. King Carlo-Alberto, the first of the house of Savoy-Carlg-

nano, abdicated the throne March 23, 1849, in favor of his son, Victor Emanuel. By the peace of Zurich, Nov. 10, 1859, Victor Emanuel obtained Lombardy, with the exception of Mantua, part of the Papal States, and the Duchies of Parma and Modena. In March, 1860, annexation to Sardinia was voted in Parma, Modena, the Romagna, and Tuscany, and in October Sicily and Naples. The first Italian Parliament assembled in February, 1861, and declared Victor Emanuel King of Italy. The remaining part of Lombardy, with Venetia, was added to his dominions in 1866. The Papal States, having been taken possession of by an Italian army after the retreat of the French garrison, were annexed to the kingdom Oct. 2, 1870. In all these movements the Prince was actively engaged. He shared the popularity of Garibaldi in Naples and Palermo, and retained his influence with the people. He won renown at the battle of Custoza June 23, 1866. On April 22, 1868, he married at Turin his cousin, the Princess Marguerite Marie Therese Jeanne, of Savoy, daughter of the late Duke Ferdinand, of Genoa, brother of Victor Emanuel. Their son was born at Naples, Nov. 11, 1869, and received the name of Victor Emanuel Ferdinand Mary Januarius, and the title of Prince of Naples. When the Italian soldiers occupied Rome in 1870 the future king took up his residence there. He succeeded to the throne on the death of his father, Jan. 9, 1878. Several attempts have been made to assassinate him, one the year he became king. During the cholera season of 1884 King Humbert distinguished himself by visits to infected districts, and the personal inspection of the hospitals and means of relief.

#### THE ORANGE BELT OF FLORIDA.

SOUTH ENGLEWOOD, Cook County, Ill.  
What constitutes the orange belt of Florida?  
MRS. H. W. CONVERSE.

*Answer.*—The orange belt may be said to include all that portion of the Floridian peninsula lying between parallels 28 and 30, with a preponderance of excellence in that portion of the belt lying between 28 and 29, and included in the eastern two-thirds of this narrow strip. Oranges are grown both north and south of this belt, but north of parallel 30 the grower runs risks from more or less severe frosts, and has to pick his fruit when still unripe in order to avoid such risk. South of parallel 28, on the other hand, the climate seems to be too warm for the tree in winter, for though the orange tree loves a warm climate, it seems to require, like a deciduous fruit tree, a period of comparative rest from growth every year in order to arrive at its highest state of fruitfulness, and this rest it does not get south of parallel 28. However,

notwithstanding this fact, the juiciest and sweetest oranges, and those which bring the highest prices in the Northern market, come from the southern tier of counties in the orange belt, and whatever the product may lack in quantity in these counties it more than makes up in quality and in the prices obtained for it. This is especially true of the Indian River (Brevard County) oranges, all of which are grown in plantations lying considerably south of parallel 29. The same may be said, in a lesser degree, of the fruit produced in Orange and Lake Counties immediately to the west of Brevard County.

#### TALKING BIRDS.

EXCELSIOR, Minn.  
How can I slit the tongue of a bird so as to make it talk?  
J. MINN.

*Answer.*—One of the ancient absurdities, so fixed in popular belief that we suppose, it will never be eradicated, is this idea that a bird can be taught to speak if its tongue is slit. What it arose from it is impossible to say. Some birds, it is true, have naturally divided tongues; but the parrots, the most successful of all birds in imitating the speech of man, have broad, thick, and soft tongues, like those of the human race. Only a limited number of birds have ever been taught to speak. These are a number—not all—of the varieties of the parrot kind, the jackdaw, the raven, the hooded crow, and the magpie. There is also said to be on record an instance of a canary's learning to speak a few words. The formation of the vocal organs of birds is peculiar. Birds all have a double larynx, one for vocalization, another for escape of air; the articulation in those which can be taught to speak being apparently effected as it is in human beings, by motions of the tongue and other parts of the mouth. In man, as well as in birds, the larynx is the organ of song; it is there that sound is made, which is modified by articulation in the mouth. Man speaks by changing the shape of the cavities of the throat, mouth, and nose, by action of muscles that form the walls of these parts, and by movements of the tongue. Birds must speak in the same way. Birds have a power of imitating sounds that no other of the lower animals possess. This power seems to be characteristic of tamed, as distinguished from wild, birds. The parrots, which are the most clever imitators of sounds in captivity, are not, so far as we know, inclined to copy sounds made by beasts or by other birds in their native woods. Apparently, imitation is the channel into which their intellectual energy is directed when their natural occupations are taken away. That is,

their perceptions being active when imprisoned they imitate everything by way of exercising their faculties. Though they speak usually as automata, without comprehension of the meaning of their utterances, it seems plain that the articulative power arises from the imitative faculty rather than from any unusual arrangement of vocal organs or muscles. Scientists have therefore been led to an examination of the brains of these birds to detect some indication of their peculiar power, and it is thought that this has been found in what is called the "white line," in the lower lobe of the brain. All human races have this, and all birds that have the power of imitating human speech, and a sensation has recently been created in the scientific world by the announcement that it had been perceived in rudimentary form in the cerebellum of certain monkeys.

#### GROUPING OF BEASTS AND BIRDS.

CHICAGO.

Will the Curiosity Shop give the different words that are used for groups of different animals and birds, and tell why such different words are used?

READER.

*Answer.*—It is a very curious fact that the English language has a separate word to designate nearly every kind of beast or bird in groups. To be sure, some of these distinctive terms are used by few except sportsmen or naturalists, but the majority of them are more or less familiar in common speech, especially where groups of the different animals are found. We suppose that the use of each one of these different words was originally founded on some reason, etymological, zoological, or ornithological, but it would take much research to ascertain these reasons, and this we have not time to give the subject. But we offer a table which shows in brief space, the most of the different terms given to various classes of animals; perhaps some of our readers can add to it:

A covey of partridges,	A flock of geese.
A ride of pheasants,	A cast of hawks.
A wisp of snipe,	A trip of dottrell,
A bevy of quail,	A swarm of bees,
A flight of doves or swallows,	A school of whales,
A muster of peacocks,	A shoal of herrings,
A siege of herons,	A herd of swine,
A building of rooks,	A skulk of foxes,
A brood of grouse,	A pack of wolves,
A plump of wild fowl,	A drove of oxen,
A stand of plovers,	A sounder of hogs,
A watch of nightingales,	A troop of monkeys,
A clattering of choughs,	A pride of lions,
	A sleuth of bears.

Also, at the risk of repeating some of the above oddities of language, we quote the following newspaper paragraph, which further illustrates the subject: "A number of sheep together is called a flock. But a flock of pretty girls is called a bevy, and a bevy of wolves is a pack, a pack

of thieves a gang, a gang of angels a host, a host of porpoises a shoal, a shoal of buffaloes a herd, a herd of children a troop, a troop of beauties a galaxy, a galaxy of ruffians a horde, a horde of mules a drove, a drove of rowdies a mob, a mob of whales a school, a school of worshippers a congregation, a congregation of engineers a corps, a corps of robbers a band, a band of locusts a swarm, and a swarm of people a crowd."

JOHN FOXE.

BLACK HAWK, Col.

Give a brief sketch of the author of Fox's "Book of Martyrs." Was he the founder of the Quaker Society?

READER.

*Answer.*—John Fox, or more correctly Foxe, the author of the "Book of Martyrs," lived from 1517 to 1587; George Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends or Quakers, from 1624 to 1690. John Foxe was a native of Boston, Lincolnshire, and was educated at Oxford, where he gained great distinction by his remarkable talents. He was made a fellow of the college in 1543, but in 1545 he was accused of heresy, and as he did not hesitate to proclaim his adherence to the principles of the Protestant Reformation, he was expelled from his college. After supporting himself for some time as a tutor in the family of Sir Thomas Lucy, of Warwickshire, and subsequently in the household of the Duke of Norfolk, he found his life in danger, and escaped to the continent. Here he prepared his great work, "The Acts and Monuments of the Church, or Book of Martyrs," which was first published in Latin at Strasbourg in 1554. When Queen Elizabeth came to the throne he returned to England, and his former pupil, now the fourth Duke of Norfolk, gave him a pension, and he was made a prebendary in the church at Salisbury. He might have had great advancement in the church, but he objected to some of the canons adopted by the reformers. He spent his remaining years in retirement and study, and died, greatly esteemed by all, in 1587. His "Book of Martyrs" was first published at London, in the English tongue, in 1563. He also wrote a number of theological treatises, a work on grammar, and some Latin translations, but his fame rests upon the "Book of Martyrs."

APATITE.

CASCADE, Iowa.

What is apatite, the substance which is now used in the manufacture of mineral fertilizers? Where is it found and in what form?

T. L. G.

*Answer.*—Apatite is simply the phosphate of lime. It is found in two forms, in combination with fluorine and also with chlorine, the varieties being known as chlor-apatite and fluor-apatite. It is produced principally in



Norway, Spain, Russia, and Canada. The Norwegian phosphate occurs in combination with chlorine, but only a small quantity of it is exported. The Spanish is a fluor-apatite and occurs in large quantities in Estramadura and adjoining provinces; it is very generally exported to other European countries. There are large deposits of the mineral in Russia between the Volga and the Desna Rivers, but they are very imperfectly utilized. The Canadian apatite is the chief one brought into this country. It is richer in phosphoric acid than the European mineral. Apatite is also known to be irregularly distributed through the rocks of the New England States, but no effort has been made there to utilize it. The name of the mineral is taken from the Greek, and signifies "deceptive," being so called because it is frequently mistaken for other minerals, as pyroxene, and others. Apatite is found in several forms, as crystals, masses, veins, strata, and also in a granular form. There are other phosphates used in making fertilizers, but the apatite is the purest form in which the phosphate of calcium occurs, and it is therefore highly valued.

#### THE HOME OF WASHINGTON IRVING.

ANN ARBOR, Mich.

Give a description and history of the home of Washington Irving. A. L. READ.

*Answer.*—Sunnyside, as the home of Washington Irving was called, was built on the eastern bank of the Hudson, some twenty-two miles from its mouth, at a widening of the river called Tappan Bay. The little village of Irvington is near Tarrytown. The cottage, with its quaint gables and weather-cocks overrun with honeysuckle, eglantine, and ivy, is in style a curious mixture of the English rural cottage and Dutch mansion. Irving described it as "a little old-fashioned stone mansion, all made up of gable ends, and as full of angles and corners as an old cocked hat. It is said, in fact, to have been modeled after the cocked hat of Peter the Headstrong, as the escurial was modeled after the gridiron of the blessed St. Lawrence." On the north end of the house is a pagoda-like tower that was popularly believed to have been brought from the Alhambra; it was, however, built by a Tarrytown carpenter. The whole grounds of Sunnyside, excepting a lawn in front, stretching toward the river, is covered with trees of all kinds, with a little brook running down to the river, which widens into what Irving called the "Little Mediterranean." The house was occupied by the Van Tassels during the revolution, when it was called "Wolfert's Roost." The house

and neighborhood, in fact, served Irving for his "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" and "Wolfert's Roost." When Mr. Irving took possession of the cottage in 1835 he altered it somewhat, which gave the half English, half Dutch appearance to the building. The place has been but little altered since Irving's death, and still remains, we think, the property of the Irving family. The author never married, but had several brothers and sisters.

#### THE MASSACRE OF WYOMING.

MARQUETTE, Mich.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give an account of the massacre of the inhabitants of Wyoming Valley? READER.

*Answer.*—The awful massacre of the inhabitants of Wyoming Valley took place in the month of July, 1778. The valley, which is on the Susquehanna River, in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, was purchased from the Six Nations in the year 1754 by an association formed in Connecticut and called the Susquehanna Company. It was not, however, until 1762 that a permanent settlement was made, but the Indians came in during the year following and dispersed the pioneers. In 1769 forty Connecticut settlers were sent there by the company, but they discovered that a party of Pennsylvanians had anticipated them, and the New Englanders also learned that the Six Nations had a second time sold their land to the Pennsylvanians. There were numerous conflicts during the succeeding six years between the settlers from the two colonies. The Connecticut colonists were strong and numerous, as may be guessed from the fact that when the War of Independence opened they had a flourishing town of over 2,000 inhabitants there, called Westmoreland. The people of the valley naturally took sides with the patriots in the struggle against the British. On June 30, 1778, about 400 British troops, with about 700 Indians, under Colonel John Butler, entered Wyoming Valley. The inhabitants were very poorly prepared to meet such a hostile force, or indeed any considerable body of armed men. Many of the best and strongest men had given up their lives in the war, and the absence of many of the surviving able-bodied men with the Continental armies left the valley practically at the mercy of the invaders. On July 3, Forty Fort—so called from the forty Connecticut pioneers—which was the chief fortification of the Valley, was called upon to surrender. The patriots, numbering about 300 men of all ages, commanded by Colonel Zebulon Butler, a Continental officer, decided to fight; after a desperate struggle these devoted men were defeated and driven back to the fort, with less than one-third of their number, who were killed by the Tories

and Indians in the most barbarous manner, the prisoners sharing the fate of those murdered on the field. Some of the unfortunate captives were tortured and massacred on the evening of the battle; and Queen Esther, a half-breed Indian woman, to avenge the death of her son, tomahawked fourteen with her own hands near the rock which still bears her name. On July 5 the fort surrendered, and in spite of the promises of the British commander the Indians sacked the houses and compelled the few survivors to flee from the Valley. It is estimated that not fewer than 300 of the people of the Valley lost their lives. The horrid barbarities of the Indians can not be repeated. In 1843 a monument was erected on the site of the battlefield of July 3. Campbell's poem, "Gertrude of Wyoming," is well known.

#### SOME MILLIONAIRES OF AMERICA.

##### CHICAGO.

Would like, if it be possible, to have Our Curiosity Shop publish a list of some of the leading millionaires of the United States. READER.

*Answer.*—It is exceedingly difficult to give anything like a list of the leading millionaires of the United States. Those who are very rich have numerous and varied enterprises and interests, and even if they desired to make public the amount of their wealth, it would often be very difficult to give anything more than an estimate of it. The subjoined list is taken from an article in the November number of the *Forum*, by Thomas G. Shearman, who remarks: "The writer abstains from mentioning in this list a single name concerning which he has any information which might possibly be considered confidential; and, to make quite sure of this, he omits the names of all gentlemen with whom he has any confidential relations. The names of persons who have died within a recent period (six of them within one year) will be included, more accurate information being obtainable concerning their affairs than in any other cases. \* \* \* No name is given which is not believed, for good reasons, to represent an individual wealth of least \$20,000,000." It is added that Trinity Church, of New York, is included in the list because it is practically an individual owner. Mr. Shearman further says: "Lists were lately published of sixty-seven millionaires residing in Pittsburg, of sixty-three residents of Cleveland possessing in the aggregate \$300,000,000, and of sixty persons residing in three villages near New York whose wealth was said to aggregate \$500,000,000. One of the gentlemen included in the last estimate said that if it included one of his neighbors, with whose affairs he is intimately acquainted, it was entirely too low; \$750,000,000 would not be too much. The Goelet estate, in New York City, pays taxes on \$25,000,000 real estate. The Mayor of Chicago says that four gentlemen of

that city are worth over \$20,000,000, but only two are included in the list, P. D. Armour and Marshall Field. The Boston *Advertiser* lately asserted that there were not fifty millionaires in Boston; but the official tax-list shows that more than fifty families pay taxes on over \$1,000,000 each, and 200 persons pay taxes on amounts which clearly show that they are really millionaires." The list of the many-times millionaires which Mr. Shearman gives is as follows:

\$150,000,000: William W. Astor; Trinity Church, New York.

\$100,000,000: C. Vanderbilt; W. K. Vanderbilt; Jay Gould; Leland Stanford; J. D. Rockefeller.

\$70,000,000: Estate of A. Packer.

\$60,000,000: John I. Blair; estate of Charles Crocker.

\$50,000,000: William Astor; Russell Sage; E. A. Stevens; estates of Moses Taylor, Brown & Ives.

\$40,000,000: P. D. Armour; F. L. Ames; William Rockefeller; H. M. Flagler; Powers & Weightman; estate of P. Goelet.

\$35,000,000: C. P. Huntington; D. O. Mills; estates of T. A. Scott, J. W. Garrett.

\$30,000,000: G. B. Roberts; Charles Pratt; Ross Winans; E. B. Cox; Claus Spreckels; August Belmont; R. J. Livingston; Fred Weyerhaeuser; Mrs. Mark Hopkins; Mrs. Hetty Green; estates of S. V. Harkness, R. W. Coleman, I. M. Singer.

\$25,000,000: A. J. Drexel; J. S. Morgan; J. P. Morgan; Marshall Field; David Dows; J. G. Fair; E. T. Gerry; estates of Governor Fairbanks, A. T. Stewart, A. Schermerhorn.

\$22,500,000: O. H. Payne; estates of F. A. Drexel, I. V. Williamson, W. F. Weld.

\$20,000,000: F. W. Vanderbilt; Theodore Havemeyer; H. O. Havemeyer; W. G. Warden; W. P. Thompson; Mrs. Schenley; J. B. Haggis; H. A. Hutchins; estates of W. Sloane, E. S. Higgins, C. Tower, William Thaw, Dr. Hostetter, William Sharon, Peter Donohue.

#### THE GREAT BELLE PLAINE WELL.

##### AURORA, ILL.

We would like to have Our Curiosity Shop tell us about the well in Iowa which caused such an overflow a few years ago.

##### WEST SIDE.

*Answer.*—The history of what has been called the Belle Plaine geyser may be summarized as follows: On Monday, Aug. 23, 1886, Messrs. Weir & Sons began boring an artesian well at Belle Plaine, Benton County, Iowa. The contract called for a well with three-inch casing, and a flow was guaranteed. There were some seven other wells of the same kind in Belle Plaine, and there was no question as to the supply either before or after the sinking of the Weir well. The hole bored was two inches, as it was believed the flow of water through this would naturally increase the size to admit of the three-inch casing. A depth of 185 feet was reached and about sixty feet of casing had been put down when the water forced itself out through the hole in a three-inch stream and rose many feet above the surface. This great flow

continued until the day following, when the workmen got the stream under control, as they believed, only to have the well burst out again with redoubled strength; the three-inch hole was soon increased by the volume and force of the stream from three inches to a foot in diameter, with a full flood pouring out. The situation became serious; the city authorities were appealed to, but although they did everything in their power to avert the danger, they were powerless. Such large quantities of water had issued from the new well that lands were flooded, many houses were threatened, and the little city was in peril. Men were set to work all night to stop the flood or divert it, but their labors were useless as the well heeled increased to the size of a barrel, and the water bubbled up four or five feet above the surface; sand was thrown out in great quantities; a channel dug from the outlet to the Iowa River carried double the volume of the river at that point. While this well was thus active all the other wells in the neighborhood ceased flowing. It is related that some 16-inch boiler iron pipes were inserted in the well to guide and control if possible the spout, but that these were at once blown out by the force of the flood; that fifteen car-loads of stone were emptied into the well, but were immediately hurled into the air; that at one time "a volume of water was forced into the air a distance of several hundred feet;" and that the stream that issued from the well was "as large as the fore wheel of a wagon." It was estimated that during the height of the flow the well discharged daily 5,000,000 gallons of water. After a vast outlay of expense and labor the well was finally controlled.

#### THE STORY OF HIAWATHA.

FORT ATKINSON, Wis.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give us a short history of Hiawatha?

A. B. F.

*Answer.*—Of his well-known poem, "The Song of Hiawatha," Longfellow thus wrote: "This Indian Edda—if I may so call it—is founded on a tradition prevalent among the North American Indians, of a personage of miraculous birth, who was sent among them to clear their rivers, forests, and fishing-grounds, and to teach them the arts of peace. He was known among different tribes by the several names of Michabou, Chiabo, Manabozo, Tarenawagon, and Hiawatha. Mr. Schoolcraft gives and account of him in his 'Algic Researches;' and in his 'History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States,' may be found the Iroquois form of the tradition, derived from the verbal narrations of an Onondaga chief." In regard to the poem by Longfellow, let it be said that all who have not read it should do so, bearing in mind that the poet has, as he says, "woven into this old tradition other curious Indian legends, taken chiefly

from the the various and valuable writings of Mr. Schoolcraft, to whom the literary world is greatly indebted for his indefatigable zeal in rescuing from oblivion so much of the legendary lore of the Indians. \* \* \* The scene of the poem is among the Ojibways, on the southern shore of Lake Superior, in the region between the Pictured Rocks and the Grand Sable."

#### WINDSOR CASTLE.

STAFFORDVILLE, N. J.

Describe the Castle of Windsor, England.

ADOLPHUS PHARO.

*Answer.*—Windsor Castle is one of the most ancient of the magnificent strongholds in Great Britain. It is known that William the Conqueror found it a famous place, the favorite seat of the Saxon kings. The Norman removed the rude wooden enclosure and constructed a stone circuit wall; the first complete round tower was built in 1272 by Henry III., and Edward III. in 1344 remodeled and reconstructed it on a much greater scale, to afford an assembly place for the Knights of the Garter, an order which he had just established. The legends had it that it was on the summit of that circular mound that King Arthur was accustomed to meet with his Knights of the Round Table. Additions have been made by various sovereigns to this famous Round Tower, the later improvements being under the direction of Sir Jeffrey Wyatville, the court architect, in the reign of George IV. The chapel cloister, built by Henry III. remains, as was another, erected by the same monarch, and dedicated to Edward the Confessor, is now called the Albert Memorial Chapel. Henry VII., in 1501 and subsequently, did much to improve the chapels of the great structure. The chapel of St. George is said to rank next to Westminster Abbey as a royal mausoleum. This chapel is a splendid specimen of Gothic architecture, and there the marriage ceremony of the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra was performed with great magnificence. In regard to the ceremony it was said that "the altar was arrayed with its gold communion plate in massive rows, and the ceremony performed by a number of prelates who made the service most impressive. The musical portion of the ceremony was sweetly rendered by Mme. Jenny Lind Goldschmidt, who, with others, offered up the hymn of praise on this great day. \* \* \* A picture of the grand ceremony was painted by Mr. Frith, for a copyright of which a higher price has been offered than has ever been offered for any other picture." Among those buried there are Henry VIII. and Lady Jane Seymour, George III. and his queen, William IV. and his queen, Charles I. and the Princess Charlotte. The vault in which the remains of these lie is at the eastern end of the chapel. It is in this chapel where the in-

stallation of the Knights of the Garter takes place. The castle, which has been one of the favorite seats of the rulers of Great Britain for eight centuries, is in its interior rich in decorations and works of art, embracing pictures, statuary, and bronzes. The principal gallery in which these are shown is over 500 feet in length. The private apartments of the Queen were for the most part rebuilt or remodeled by Sir Jeffrey Wyatville. The royal forest of Windsor in 1790 contained some 60,000 acres. Since then, however, it has been much reduced in size, although it still ranks as one of the finest in the kingdom, and contains some oak trees of great age and size.

#### SOME REVOLUTIONARY HEROES.

NORTEVILLE, S. D.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give the names of some of the foreigners who aided the United States in the Revolution?  
F. J. SCHMIDT.

*Answer.*—The patriots of the Revolution were indebted to France more than to any other one country for support, moral and material, during the struggle for independence. But there were several instances of high service rendered by the sons of other lands whose deeds of valor contributed not a little to the success of the colonists. Naturally, Lafayette comes at the head of the list of those who distinguished themselves in the war for independence. He was young, titled, held in high esteem in his native land, had home and kindred to wed him to France, and yet, while the King withheld his permission, the British minister protested vigorously against his course, while almost every personal interest seemed to oppose his decision, he put all these aside to cross the ocean, and aid in fighting the battles of the struggling colonists on this side of the Atlantic. Among his companions was Baron De Kalb. This gentleman was a German general, born in Bavaria in 1721, who had served in the French army and had won distinction. When the youthful and accomplished Lafayette came to America in 1777 De Kalb came with him and was appointed a Major General by Congress. In the same year he served under Washington in Pennsylvania, and in New Jersey until the spring of 1780, and then became second in command in the army of General Gates. At the battle of Camden, S. C., the gallant German was mortally wounded and died Aug. 19, 1780. He was one of the men on whom Washington leaned for support during the dark hours of the war. John Paul Jones' name recalls deeds of daring on the sea that read more like romance than reality. Jones was a Scotchman, who was born and reared in the southwest part of Scotland. He went to Virginia in 1773 and was there when the war began. He was among those who offered their services to Congress, and in December, 1775, he was appointed

senior lieutenant in the navy and assigned to a ship. From that time his career on the sea is well known. He performed wonderful feats, and his name soon came to be a terror among the British merchantmen and war ships of the day. The unfortunate Count D'Estaing came to the United States in 1778 in command of twelve ships of the line and four frigates, bringing with him Gerard, the first French Ambassador to this country. While much has been written on the subject of the general failure of this fleet and force under D'Estaing to accomplish what was expected of them, still there can be no doubt that their presence in American waters contributed ultimately to the success of the arms of the colonists. The unfortunate Count was executed in Paris in 1794 by the Commune in the reign of terror. Another distinguished foreigner, whose name is familiar to readers of the literature of the Revolution, was Count De Grasse. He was born at Valette, Provence, in 1723, served against the Moors and Turks while quite young, and in 1749 was transferred to the French Navy, and rose from a Lieutenant to high rank. In 1781 he sailed for America, and contributed essentially to the reduction of Yorktown, and afterward served with great distinction in the West Indies. However, he was surprised by the British Admiral Rodney who had a superior force, and was utterly defeated April 12, 1782. He died in Paris in 1788. Count De Fleury was a French Lieutenant-Colonel in the war for independence, having received a Captain's commission from Washington. He served at Fort Mifflin on the Delaware and at the battle of Brandywine, and was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel in November, 1777. In the winter of 1777-78 he was sub-inspector under Steuben; June 4, 1778, he was Adjutant General of General Lee's division; in July, 1778, he was second in command of a battalion of light infantry in the Rhode Island expedition, and then commanded a battalion of light infantry under Washington. He received the thanks of Congress and a silver medal for gallantry in the storming of Stony Point, in July, 1779, and the year following he returned to France. A sketch of Baron Steuben is given in Our Curiosity Shop book for the year 1881. The last one of these notables whom we have here space to mention was Count De Rochambeau. He belonged to the same age as De Kalb and De Grasse, having been born at Vendome, France, July 1, 1725. At the age of 17 he entered the French army, was distinguished in the campaigns of the Seven Years' War, and became Field Marshal in 1761 and Lieutenant General in 1780. He commanded the French forces in America from 1780 to 1782; took a prominent part in campaign of

Yorktown in 1781, and his services were recognized by the American people. He led an active life after his return to Europe, narrowly escaped the clutches of the murderers of the reign of terror, and fell at the battle of Leipzig, Oct. 18, 1813.

#### THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS.

SAN JOSE, Cal.  
What is meant by what is called the Chiltern Hundreds?  
A. B. M.

*Answer.*—The Chiltern Hills extend through portions of Oxford, Buckingham, and Bedford, and were at one time thickly covered with forests, which furnished a safe retreat for bold robbers. So daring did these bandits become that a special officer was appointed as the Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds for the protection of those who inhabited the neighboring districts. Long ago the necessity for such an official ceased to exist, but the three hundreds of Stoke, Burnham, and Desborough in Buckingham are yet known by the old name; a Steward is still named by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with a salary of twenty shillings (about \$5), and the fees of the office. The only importance of the office is that derived from the use made of it by members of Parliament who want to lay aside their parliamentary position and its honors and exactions. When a member of Parliament wishes to retire from office, he does not resign direct, but he joins the Chiltern Hundreds, and then, inasmuch as he thus holds an office of profit and honor under the Crown, he has to resign his seat in Parliament. Therefore, "to accept the Chiltern Hundreds" is equivalent to and means the resigning of a seat in Parliament. As soon as a member accepts the Chiltern Hundreds, he vacates for the benefit of others. The stewardship of the manors of East Hendred, Northhead, and Hempholme are other sinecure offices made use of for the same purpose.

#### THE CAPTURE OF JEFF DAVIS.

BLOOMING PRAIRIE, Steele County, Minn.  
By what route was ex-Confederate President Jeff Davis taken to Fortress Monroe? Was it by land via Nashville, Tenn., or by water via Savannah or Charleston, in the spring of 1865, when he was captured by Union soldiers?  
A. COLQUHOUN.

*Answer.*—In the flight of the remnants of the Confederate Cabinet after the fall of Richmond and the surrender of Lee, Jefferson Davis had separated from his family. This is Greeley's narrative in his "American Conflict" of the succeeding events: "Mr. Davis had even separated, for greater safety, from his family; but, on an alarm of peril to which they were said to be exposed from a conspiracy to rob them of the gold they were supposed to be carrying off, had rejoined them over night; when his sylvan encampment near Irwinsville, Ga., was struck by Lieutenant Colonel Pritchard, Fourth Michigan Cavalry, who, upon advice that what re-

mained of the rebellion was working its way furtively southward through Georgia, had, been dispatched by General Wilson from Macon in quest of him, as had also the First Wisconsin Cavalry, Lieutenant Colonel Harden. These two commands, moved by different roads down the Ocmulgee. Pritchard at length struck the trail he was seeking, and followed it to the encampment aforesaid; which he surprised at early dawn; easily taking captive Mr. Davis, his wife, her sister, and his children; but, being directly thereafter involved in a fight with the First Wisconsin, which was closing in in the quarry from another quarter, and—each taking the other for enemies—the two commands opened a reciprocal fire, whereby two men were killed and several wounded before the mutual mistake was discovered. The dead were borne sadly to Abbeville and there buried; the wounded, with prisoners, were conveyed to Macon, whence Davis was taken, via Savannah and the ocean, to Fortress Monroe."

#### METHODISM, NORTH AND SOUTH.

TAMPA, Fla.  
Please give in Our Curiosity Shop as full a history of the separation of the Methodist Church into North and South Methodist as your space will admit of.  
F. P. CHAMBERLAIN.

*Answer.*—The Methodist Episcopal Church was the first church to recognize officially the Constitution of the United States. It was early active in attempts to ameliorate the condition of the slaves, and it had early been pronounced in its declaration that slave holding was not compatible with membership in its communion. From the formal organization of the church its conferences pronounced repeatedly against slave holding, and there was no uncertain sound as to the duty of church members with regard to the holding of persons in bondage. Up to 1840 there were frequent utterances on the subject, and they were all in the line of a vigorous protest against the evils of slavery, and urging or commanding the preachers and membership to manumit their slaves wherever the laws of the State would permit of such a course. The Methodist Church extended South, while it was making great strides westward, until the case of a preacher named Francis A. Harding, of the Baltimore Conference. Mr. Harding had come into possession of slaves by marriage. Because he failed to manumit these slaves he was suspended by the Baltimore Conference, and upon the case being taken to the General Conference the suspension was confirmed. It was a celebrated case, but not more so than that of Bishop James O. Andrew, who had become possessed of slaves after his election as bishop. By a vote of 111 to 69 it was resolved by the General Conference, "that it is the sense of the General Conference that he desist from the exercise of his office so long as this impediment (slave-holding) remains."

After much discussion the delegates from thirteen annual conferences submitted a declaration that the action just recorded was such that it "must produce a state of things in the South which renders a continuance of the jurisdiction of the General Conference over these conferences inconsistent with the success of the ministry in the slaveholding States." This was referred to a committee who reported a plan by which a separation could be effected, provided there was no way presented to peacefully arrange the difficulties. There was also a satisfactory adjustment, as well as a division of church property; and then after the adjournment of the General Conference, a call was issued by the Southern delegates for a convention of the slaveholding conferences to meet in Louisville, Ky., May 1, 1845. This convention declared the conferences represented to be a distinct connection, and to be known as the Methodist Episcopal Church South. For a number of years the two churches have exchanged fraternal greetings, and efforts have been made to bring them closer and closer together, organically, but thus far without success.

#### MONTENEGRO.

#### CHICAGO.

Give us information bearing on Montenegro, that small principality which Turkey has never yet got hold of.

J. B.

*Answer.*—Montenegro's constitution is nominally that of a limited monarchy. The reigning family are descended from Petrovic Njegos, who liberated the land from the Turks and was proclaimed Vladika, or Prince Bishop, in 1697. In 1851 the then reigning ruler abandoned the title of Vladika and assumed that of Hospodar, or Prince. The executive authority rests with the reigning Prince, while the legislative power is vested in a council of eight members, one-half of whom are nominated by the Prince and the remainder elected by the male inhabitants who are bearing arms or who have borne arms. The absolute monarchical principle comes in here, as the Prince is as truly an autocrat as the Czar. The people of Montenegro are divided into forty tribes; each of these tribes is governed by elected elders and a chief, called the Knjas, who acts as judge, and in time of war as military commander. By the so-called administrative statute of 1879 the country is divided into eighty districts and five military commands. The area of Montenegro is about 3,600 square miles, or less than half the size of the State of New Jersey, and the population 236,000; the people are engaged in pastoral and agricultural pursuits, the latter conducted in a very primitive style. While there is no standing army, yet all the inhabitants not physically unfitted are trained to arms and liable to be called upon; the number of persons capable of bearing

arms, between the ages of 14 and 50, is about 30,000. The Montenegrins belong entirely to the Servian branch of the Slav race, and belong to the Greek Church, excepting about 4,000 Roman Catholics and some 10,000 Mussulmans of Albanian or Slav origin.

#### THE ORDER OF DEACONESSES.

#### MAQUOKETA, IOWA.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give an account of the society called "Deaconesses"?

#### MRS. A. D. ATHERTON.

*Answer.*—The "Deaconesses" is an order or society connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, but which is non-sectarian in its work. At the head of this organization is Mrs. Lucy Rider Meyer, who is as well-known in Sunday-school and general religious work as any woman in the West. The Deaconesses have a home at 114 Dearborn avenue, Chicago, which is supported and is gradually being paid for by voluntary contributions from friends of the work. The principal method of raising the revenues for the work, however, is by "dime circles," conducted as follows: A friend of the work writes letters to two of her friends asking them to join her in a circle of three, and each send a dime to Mrs. Lucy Rider Meyer. The two friends are further requested each to get two others to join them in a similar circle of three, and these in turn do the same for two others. Thus the circles of dime-givers are gradually increased until by a trifling contribution from a multitude of individuals a considerable sum is secured. The work of the Deaconesses is done gratis, and they receive no pay. They are Bible readers, trained nurses, and a number of other good things, and make a business of seeking out work among the poor and sick and of doing all the good they can. Their work is heartily supported and commended by the Methodist bishops, and is recognized generally as an admirable and valuable charity. The members of the order are volunteers and they reside at the home, where rooms and board are furnished. The young women who engage in this work are almost without exception educated women who enter the work from purely charitable and Christian motives. They wear a plain uniform gown of dark gray material, and can usually be distinguished in that way.

#### THE BELLS OF LIMERICK.

#### THREE HAUITS, Ind.

Would like a history of the "Bells of Limerick," in the tower of Limerick Cathedral.

#### HENRY WARREN.

*Answer.*—One of the principal objects of interest in the city of Limerick, Ireland, is the Cathedral, which dates from the twelfth century, and of the bells in whose tower a touching story is told. It is said that the bells were the work of an Italian artist, who made them for a convent in his native place. During the wars of Francis I. and Charles V. he lost three of his

sons, and the music of the bells was the sole soother of his melancholy hours. At last the convent became so poor that the bells were sold and taken away to distant countries. The sorrowing old man endeavored to find them, wandering to many foreign lands. One evening as he was arriving in Limerick the bells rang out the hour of prayer. The legend relates that his joy at the discovery of his lost bells was too much for him, and he died with their tones sounding in his ears.

## HISTORY OF KANSAS.

GLENN, Kan.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give us a short history of Kansas?  
T. L. HOGWER.

*Answer.*—It would be impossible to give more than a most imperfect outline of the eventful history of Kansas in our limited space. This State was, as all our readers know, the scene of the first deadly struggle between freedom and slavery in this country. The greater part of Kansas was included in the Louisiana purchase of 1803, and by the Missouri Compromise of 1820 slavery was forever prohibited in the region included in this purchase, north of 36 degrees 30 minutes north latitude, excepting the part thereof included in the State of Missouri. But it was contended that the terms of the Clay "omnibus bill" of 1850 partially repealed the compromise, and the "Kansas-Nebraska bill," passed in 1854, distinctly provided that the question of slavery in these Territories, should be settled by the people thereof. Emigrant aid societies were therefore formed in Massachusetts and Connecticut, which sent out companies of men to take up homes in the Territory, and supplied them with arms to defend their claims; and at the same time similar bands were sent over the border by the people of Arkansas and Missouri. Then began a series of raids and conflicts, lasting over four years, in which many were killed on both sides, but the influx of settlers continued in spite of the disorder, for both parties were terribly in earnest. The town of Lawrence was twice besieged and burned, other towns were partly destroyed, the polls were invaded, the Legislatures broken up by the seizure and imprisonment of their officers, and the Territory kept in a constant condition of turmoil. Governor after governor was appointed for the Territory—Reeder, Shannon, Geary, Walker, Denver, Medary, and Stanton—but each in turn found the conflicting forces too strong for him to cope with or to reduce to peace and order. Four successive constitutions for the Territory were voted on between December, 1855, and October, 1859. The first was known as the Topeka constitution; it was adopted in December, 1855, and prohibited slavery, but its authority was never recognized by the pro-slavery settlers. The second, called the Le-compton constitution, was drawn up by a con-

vention composed almost entirely of pro-slavery men, which met in the autumn of 1857. It fully recognized slavery as permitted in the Territory, forbade emancipation, or any change of the constitution, for seven years. This constitution was offered to the people to be voted for, with or without its slavery provisions. The Free State men refused to vote at all, but the other party declared it adopted. However, two general votes were had on this constitution in January and August, 1858, and it was rejected in both instances. Another constitution had been framed in April, 1858, and was carried by the Free State men by a small majority. As it was not quite satisfactory, a fourth convention met at Wyandotte in July, 1859, and adopted the present constitution of the State, which the people ratified Oct. 4, following. Kansas was admitted as a State Jan. 29, 1861. During the early part of the civil war Eastern Kansas suffered much from the irregular warfare, known there as "jaw hawking," which was carried on by Confederate raiders. Aug. 21, 1863, an attack was made upon Lawrence by a band of guerrillas under Colonel Quantrell, which resulted in the loss of many lives and much property. During the war Kansas furnished to the Federal army upward of 20,000 men, a larger proportion of the male population than was furnished by any other State. Since the war the State has advanced in prosperity with wonderful rapidity and vigor.

## GEOGRAPHICAL PRIME MERIDIANS.

CARTHAGE, Mo.  
Give a history of the different geographical prime meridians, used by the several nations, from the earliest days to the present.

## SUBSCRIBER.

*Answer.*—The line where an imaginary plane, passing through the earth's axis, cuts the circumference, is known as a meridian. The meridian of any place is a line passing through that place and also through both the north and south poles. It is evident that such a line carried around the globe must form the circumference of a plane circle which passes through the earth's center also. The first or prime meridian is the meridian from which distances upon the surface are reckoned. It is, of course, essential in drawing maps. Among the early geographers there was considerable variety in determining the prime meridian. The first line of this kind used was fixed by Ptolemy, who placed it on the most westerly of the Canary islands. This line was generally used until the discovery of the western continent. After that, while the Spaniards and Portuguese reckoned from the line of demarcation (370 leagues west of the Cape Verde islands) which had been sanctioned by the Pope; the Protestant Dutch, Germans, and English still adhered to the Ptolemaean merid-

ian. Mercator, on his globe of the year 1541, chose the island Forteventura, in the Canaries as his starting point, but subsequently adopted Corvo, in the Azores, because he there approached the true indication of the magnetic needle. But, with the idea of approaching still nearer the point where the variation of the needle was indicated, the younger Mercator and other geographers of his time fixed on the Isle del Fuego, in the Cape Verde group. A noted Dutch navigator, however, William Blaeuw, chose the peak of Teneriffe, and his example was followed, generally, by his countrymen. In the year 1634 King Louis XIII. commanded that all French ships should, under penalty, calculate their longitudes from the meridian of Ferro, though the relation of the position of Ferro to that of the observatory at Paris was not accurately understood for many years later. France, however, about the beginning of the nineteenth century, returned to the use of the meridian of Paris. Spain, also, after her hold on the western world was broken, began to reckon from the meridian passing through San Fernando, on an island a few miles southwest of Cadiz on the Spanish coast. The Danish navigators have preferred to make their reckonings from the meridian of Copenhagen. The meridian of Ferro, however, was the one most generally used down to the nineteenth century, and is still adhered to by Germany and all the countries of Eastern Europe. Denmark, Spain, and France use the separate meridians that we have mentioned, but Great Britain and all her dependent colonies, the United States, and the Central and South American countries use the meridian of Greenwich, England, the United States also using Washington. A conference of scientists was held at Washington in October, 1884, for the purpose of selecting a uniform meridian, from which all the nations of the world should make their reckonings. The weight of favor inclined to the choice of the Greenwich meridian, but the strong opposition of the French delegates prevented this selection, and no other had any general support. The conference, therefore, broke up without making any decision, and the various meridians which we have mentioned are still in use.

#### PRESIDENT FOR ONE DAY.

NORTH FRANKLIN, Conn.

Who was the Chief Executive of the United States for one day? What day? How did it occur?

CLAYTON H. LATHROP.

*Answer.*—This question has been asked many times, especially during the past three or four years. On Jan. 26, 1886, there died in comparative obscurity a man who filled a large place in the councils of pro-slavery leaders. His name was David R. Atchison. He served a part of one term and two full terms as a Sena-

tor in Congress from the State of Missouri. He was a Democrat of the Calhoun school, not of the school of Andrew Jackson. He was for several sessions of Congress President pro tem. of the Senate. It may be remembered by some few of the older generations that General Zachary Taylor was not sworn in to office as President of the United States until Monday, March 5, 1849. Senator Atchison was President pro tem. of the Senate at the time, and in this sense he was acting President of the United States for one day. It was understood at the time, that is, in 1877, that President Hayes took the oath of office on Sunday, March 4, and again on Monday, March 5.

#### THE SHAKERS.

INDEPENDENCE, Iowa.

Give a brief history of the sect known as "The Shakers." What are some of their peculiar teachings and practices?

G. H. HARTER.

*Answer.*—This sect was originally an offshoot from the Society of Quakers, or Friends. In 1747 some members of that society in Manchester, England, formed a distinct association, under the leadership of James and Jane Wardley. For several years the little company were only noticeable through being more noisy than most of the assemblages of Quakers, dancing, shouting, trembling, etc., under the supposed influence of the spirit. But in 1770 one of their members, Ann Lee, professed to receive some peculiar revelations, testifying, first, that the carnal nature of the flesh was the root of all human depravity, and, second, that she herself was Christ, or the incarnate Deity, in the female form. The new sect became thoroughly infatuated with Ann Lee's teachings; they called her "Mother Ann," and declared their belief that no blessing could descend to any person except through her. But, outside of their small circle, the new doctrines were regarded as blasphemous, and Ann Lee and her worshipers were imprisoned and fined. In 1774, therefore, in obedience to another of Mrs. Lee's revelations, she and several of her followers emigrated to New York and settled at Niskayuna (now Watervliet), about seven miles from Albany. There they remained, and after some years received quite a large accession to their number. "Mother Ann" died in 1784. She had established the community in the form of a family, and the general plan which she laid down has ever since been followed. In 1787 Joseph Meacham, one of Ann Lee's first converts in this country, collected her adherents in a settlement at New Lebanon. Within a few years Meacham had formed eleven other settlements in New York and other States. No other societies were formed until about fifteen years later, when some missionaries were sent to the West and founded four communities in Ohio and two in Kentucky. Parts of these settle-



ments are still in existence, others have been entirely dispersed. The following is their general plan: A number of persons, called collectively a "family" or household, are assigned to each house. All the houses are built after one plan, divided through the middle by a large hall, and having the rooms for the male members on one side of the building, and those for the females on the other. All property is held in common, and every member of the household who is able to work is employed. The settlements usually carry on some special branch of agricultural or manufacturing business, in which they often attain great expertise and success. They themselves lead a celibate life, but they teach that, for those who are not Shakers, marriage, being necessary for the perpetuation of the human race, is not sinful. This sect received the name of "Shakers" because of the extraordinary contortions into which they throw themselves during their religious exercises. They say that worship requires the exercise of both soul and body. When they meet for religious service an address is first given by one of their elders on some doctrinal subject, and then the whole company form a circle around a band of singers, and, in time to the music, they go through a series of extraordinary bodily evolutions, dancing, leaping, whirling round and round, with marvelous rapidity. Some of their members often claim to have the gift of tongues and of prophecy. Their religious belief resembles that of the Quakers in many particulars, but has a number of essential peculiarities of its own.

#### POPE PIUS IX. AND THE CONFEDERACY.

NO. 281 SOUTH OAKLEY AVENUE, CHICAGO.

When did Pope Pius IX. recognize the independence of the Southern Confederacy? Did he pronounce a blessing upon Jeff Davis?

J. W. ALLEN.

*Answer.*—Pope Pius IX., on Oct. 18, 1862, addressed letters to the Archbishops of New York and New Orleans on the subject of the rebellion. These letters are probably those to which reference is made in this inquiry. To make them and their contents as clear as possible, we reproduce them entire, as follows:

*To our Venerable Brother, John, Archbishop of New York.*

POPE PIUS IX.

*Venerable Brother, Health and Apostolic Benediction:* Amongst the various and most oppressive cares which weigh on us in these turbulent and perilous times, we are greatly afflicted by the truly lamentable state in which the Christian people of the United States of America are placed by the destructive civil war broken out amongst them.

For, venerable brother, we can not but be overwhelmed with the deepest sorrow whilst we recapitulate, with paternal feelings, the slaughter, ruin, destruction, devastation, and the other in-

numerable and ever-to-be-deplored calamities by which the people themselves are most miserably harassed and dilacerated. Hence, we have not ceased to offer up, in the humility of our hearts, our most fervent prayers to God, that He would deliver them from so many and so great evils.

And we are fully assured that you also, venerable brother, pray and implore, without ceasing, the Lord of Mercies to grant solid peace and prosperity to that country. But since we, by virtue of the office of apostolic ministry, embrace, with the deepest sentiments of charity, all the nations of the Christian world, and, though unworthy, administer here on earth the vicegerent work of Him who is the Author of Peace and the Lover of Charity, we can not refrain from inculcating again and again on the minds of the people themselves and their chief rulers, mutual charity and peace.

Wherefore, we write you this letter, in which we urge you, venerable brother, with all the force and earnestness of our mind, to exhort, with your eminent piety and episcopal zeal, your clergy and faithful, to offer up their prayers, and also apply all your study and exertion, with the people and their chief rulers, to restore forthwith the desired tranquillity and peace by which the happiness of both the Christian and civil republic is principally maintained.

Wherefore, omit nothing you can undertake and accomplish by your wisdom, authority, and exertion, as far as compatible with the nature of the holy ministry, to conciliate the minds of the combatants, pacify, reconcile, and bring back the desired tranquillity and peace, by all those means that are most conducive to the best interests of the people.

Take every pains, besides, to cause the people and their chief rulers seriously to reflect on the grievous evils with which they are afflicted, and which are the result of civil war, the direct, most destructive, and dismal of all the evils that could befall a people or nation.

Neither omit to admonish and exhort the people and their supreme rulers, even in our name, that, with conciliated minds, they would embrace peace, and love each other with uninterrupted charity. For we are confident that they would comply with our paternal admonitions and hearken to our words the more willingly, as of themselves they plainly and clearly understand that we are influenced by no political reasons, no earthly considerations, but impelled solely by paternal charity, to exhort them to tranquillity and peace. And study with your surpassing wisdom to persuade all that true prosperity, even in this life, is sought for in vain out of the true religion of Christ and its salutary doctrines.

We have no hesitation, venerable brother, but that, calling to your aid the services and assistance even of your associate bishops, you would abundantly satisfy these our wishes, and by your wise and prudent efforts bring a matter of such moment to a happy termination.

We wish you, moreover, to be informed that we write in a similar manner this very day to our venerable John Mary, Archbishop of New Or-

leans, that, counseling and conferring with you, he would direct all his thoughts and care most earnestly to accomplish the same object.

May God, rich in mercy, grant that these our most ardent desires be accomplished, and as soon as possible our heart may exult in the Lord over peace restored to that people.

In fine, it is most pleasing to us to avail ourselves of this opportunity to again testify the special esteem in which we hold you. Of which, also, receive a most assured pledge, the apostolic benediction, which, coming from the inmost recesses of our heart, we most lovingly bestow on you, venerable brother, and the flock committed to your charge.

Dated Rome, at St. Peter's, Oct. 18, 1862, in the seventeenth year of our Pontificate.

#### POPE PIUS IX.

Jefferson Davis wrote to Pope Pius IX. as follows in regard to these letters:

RICHMOND, Va., Sept. 23, 1863.—*Very Venerable Sovereign Pontiff:* The letters which you have written to the clergy of New Orleans and New York have been communicated to me, and I have read with emotion the deep grief therein expressed for the ruin and devastation caused by the war which is now being waged by the United States against the States and people which have selected me as their President, and your orders to your clergy to exhort the people to peace and charity. I am deeply sensible of the Christian charity which has impelled you to this reiterated appeal to the clergy. It is for this reason that I feel it my duty to express personally, and in the name of the Confederate States, our gratitude for such sentiments of Christian good-feeling and love, and to assure your Holiness that the people, threatened even on their own hearths with the most cruel oppression and terrible carnage, is desirous now, as it has always been, to see the end of this impious war; that we have ever addressed prayers to heaven for that issue which your Holiness now desires; that we desire none of our enemy's possessions, but that we fight merely to resist the devastation of our country, and the shedding of our best blood, and to force them to let us live in peace under the protection of our own institutions, and under our laws, which not only insure to every one the enjoyment of his temporal rights, but also the free exercise of his religion. I pray your Holiness to accept on the part of myself and the people of the Confederate States, our sincere thanks for your efforts in favor of peace. May the Lord preserve the days of your Holiness, and keep you under His divine protection.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

To this the Pope replied:

*Illustrious and Honorable President:* We have just received, with all suitable welcome, the persons sent by you to place in our hands your letter, dated 23rd of September last. Not slight was the pleasure we experienced when we learned, from these persons and the letter, with what feelings of joy and gratitude you were animated, illustrious and honorable President, as soon as you were informed of our letters to our venerable brothers, John Archbishop of New Orleans,

and John Archbishop of New Orleans, dated the 18th of October of last year, and in which we have, with all our strength, excited and exhorted these venerable brothers that in their episcopal piety and solicitude they should endeavor, with the most ardent zeal, and in our name, to bring about the end of the fatal civil war which has broken out in those countries, in order that the American people may obtain peace and concord, and dwell charitably together. It is particularly agreeable to us to see that you, illustrious and honorable President, and your people, are animated with the same desires of peace and tranquillity which we have in our letters inculcated upon our venerable brothers. May it please God at the same time to make the other peoples of America and their rulers, reflecting seriously how terrible is civil war, and what calamities it engenders, listen to the inspirations of a calmer spirit, and adopt resolutely the part of peace. As for us, we shall not cease to offer up the most fervent prayers to God Almighty that He may pour upon all the peoples of America the spirit of peace and charity, and that He will stop the great evils which afflict them. We at the same time beseech the God of mercy and pity to shed abroad upon you the light of His grace, and attach you to us by a perfect friendship.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, the 3d day of December, 1863, of our Pontificate 18.

PIUS IX.

#### THE EIGHTEENTH ILLINOIS.

PARDEEVILLE, Wis.

When and where were the various companies to the Eighteenth Illinois Regiment enlisted? Give a sketch of it.

L. S.

*Answer.*—The Eighteenth Illinois Infantry originally rendezvoused at Anna, Union County, Ill., May 16, 1861, under the "ten-regiment bill." It was all raised in the old Ninth Congressional District. It was mustered into the State service for thirty days May 19 by Ulysses S. Grant, then State mustering officer. On the 28th it was mustered into the United States service for three years, M. K. Lawler, Colonel. In June the regiment was sent to Bird's Point, and was stationed there and at various other points along the river until February, 1862, when it moved with Grant's army against Forts Henry and Donelson. At the siege of the latter fort the regiment lost 200 men in killed and wounded; at the battle of Shiloh, where only part of the regiment was engaged, its casualties reached a total of seventy-five. The regiment was with the army of the Tennessee in its advance on Corinth. Soon after it was stationed at Jackson, Tenn., where it remained some months. In December it was sent in pursuit of Forrest, but had a severe tramp of 175 miles without accomplishing anything. In the following spring it made several raids southward, scouring the country for supplies, and at the same time it took a number of prisoners. May 30, 1863, the regiment was started to join

the troops then investing Vicksburg. After the capture of that city it joined the forces of General Steele in Arkansas. Here it remained, being stationed principally at Pine Bluff, Duvall's Bluff, and Little Rock, and took part in numerous campaigns and expeditions. It suffered much from sickness. Early in June, 1864, it was mustered out and sent home.

## A HISTORY OF ROME.

GIVE A CONDENSED HISTORY OF ROME FROM THE TIME IT WAS FOUNDED TO THE PRESENT.

CORDOVA, ILL.

G. W. BRINK.

*Answer.*—To give the information asked for is to try to press into a few lines events which have filled scores of volumes and ages of time. It can not be stated with certainty what was the origin of the city of Rome. The generally accepted date of its founding is the year 753 before the Christian era. The first seven kings were Romulus, Numa, Tullius Hostilius, Ancus Marcius, Tarquin the Elder, Servius Tullius, and Tarquin the Superb. It was during the reign of Ancus Marcius that Rome became important as a city. Tarquin the Superb was so tyrannical that his oppression resulted in the expulsion of the kings and the founding of a republic governed by two consuls. In the year 498 there was a dictatorship, followed by a tribunate in 493, the decemvirate in 451, and the replacing of the consulate in 444 before Christ, which saw, in 264, the republic then become the greatest of the world's nations. In the year 29 before our era the Senate declared Augustus Emperor of Rome; this title existed down to Francis II. in 1792. Of course there were periods when the people ruled. Constantine the Great gave the Christian religion a footing and foundation, and made it possible for it to hold its place among the religio-political powers of the times. In his day the capital was transferred to Constantinople. In the year 410 Rome was sacked by Alaric and in 445 by the Vandals. The Goths besieged it in 537, and it was desolated when they entered it in 546. The Popes were powerful in Rome for centuries. The conflicts between the leading rulers of Europe and the ecclesiastical hierarchy of Rome were numerous, and many of them serious. Henry IV. laid siege to Rome in 1081, 1082, and 1083, and finally drove out Gregory VII. There were serious difficulties in the time of Innocent II., and a republic was established. Then in 1241 Frederick II. marched on Rome and drove out Gregory IX. In the year 1281 the nobles became masters of the city, and the seat of the Holy See was removed to Avignon in 1347; then it was that, in the absence of the Pope, a republic was established, and Rienzi was proclaimed tribune; he drove out the oppressing nobles and executed the robbers; he became dictator; but the

year after he was forced to flee for refuge to Emperor Charles IV. at Prague, by whom he was delivered up to Pope Clement VI., who condemned him to death, only to escape by the death of that papal prince. Innocent VI. sent Rienzi to Rome as a Senator to restore his (Innocent's) authority; there he was received with enthusiasm, once more placed at the head of affairs, gave the people much freedom, freed them from the bandits; but was killed in an insurrection Oct. 8, 1354. In 1377 the Pope returned to Rome, but the two parties or factions, the Colonna and Orsini, carried things with a high hand until the sixteenth century. Affairs continued to the declaration of the republic in 1798, but at the peace of Lunerville it was restored to Pius VII. In 1808 the first Napoleon joined Rome to the Empire of France, declared it the second city of the empire, and proclaimed his son King of Rome. After 1814 the people were once more given their power there, and this they maintained until 1848, when Pius IX. was compelled to leave Rome, and the next year the republic was declared. In 1850 the papal power was established by Louis Napoleon; the Italians endeavored to make Rome the capital, but in 1864 it was fixed at Florence, and France agreed to withdraw her troops in two years. Trouble arose in regard to the French troops in 1867, and these soldiers were quartered in the neighborhood until the opening of the Franco-Prussian war, when they were withdrawn, and the Italian troops marched into Rome after a bombardment of five hours, and since then the states of the church have been incorporated with those of Italy, and Rome is again the capital.

## HENRIK IBSEN.

HORSE COVE, N. C.

GIVE A SKETCH OF THE NORWEGIAN DRAMATIST, IBSEN, AND TELL SOMETHING ABOUT HIS WORKS.

MRS. C. G. MEMMINGER.

*Answer.*—Henrik Ibsen was born in 1828 at Skien, Norway, and began active life as an apothecary, but his strong inclination for literature led him aside from that business. His first attempt, "Cataline," a drama, was a very poor production, lacking in thought, and was in wretched verse. In 1851 he entered the University of Christiania, and while there he wrote, among other things, a long drama, "Norma, or a Politician's Love," a rather impertinent lampoon on the Storching, or National Parliament. After leaving the university, Ibsen secured through Ole Bull the celebrated violinist, the post of director of the theater at Bergen, for which he wrote a great deal. In 1857 he went to Christiania to direct the National Theater there. He wrote dramas of various kinds, chiefly historical; but his first striking success was "Love's Comedy," brought out in 1863, a poem full of elaborate irony.

The following year he left Norway for Rome, where he wrote a poem called "Brand," one of the best of his works, and the one which was the most instrumental in rendering him famous. In it he presented an ideal of stainless virtue, and the verse in which it is written is of a high lyrical order. His next work was "Peer Gynt," in which he portrays the selfishness and cunning of the work of ambitious men. Another of his works, "Emperor and Galilean," is full of power and interest, and still more so is the drama of "Julian the Apostate." Some of his works, however, although they are not without merit, are dull and prosaic. His later poems are chiefly satirical. He has but recently attempted the writing of novels, in which he seems to incline toward a purely satirical vein, and these works, though they show much power, are not pleasing.

#### GOVERNORS OF MARYLAND.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give a list of the Governors of Maryland and their terms of office?

WM. A. NEWBRAND.

*Answer.*—The list of Governors of Maryland given embraces those from the first lords proprietary through the various stages down to the Revolution, and under the Constitution:

#### LORDS PROPRIETARY.

Cecilus Calvert, second Lord Baltimore	1633-75
Charles Calvert, third Lord Baltimore	1675-1715
Benedict Leonard Calvert, fourth Lord Baltimore	1715-15
Charles Calvert, fifth Lord Baltimore	1715-51
Frederick Calvert, sixth Lord Baltimore	1751-71
Sir H. Harford, last proprietary	1771-76

#### GOVERNORS APPOINTED BY LORDS PROPRIETARY.

Leonard Calvert	1633-47
Thomas Greene	1647-49
Wm. Stone	1649-54
Commissioners under Parliament	1654-58
Josiah Fendall	1658-61
Philip Calvert	1661-62
Charles Calvert	1662-67
Charles, third Lord Baltimore	1667-78
Thomas Notley	1678-81
Charles, third Lord Baltimore	1681-85
Wm. Joseph, President of Deputies	1685-89
Convention of Protestant Association	1689-92

#### ROYAL GOVERNORS.

Sir Lionel Copley	1692-93
Sir Edmond Andros	1693-94
Francis Nicholson	1694-99
Nathaniel Blackistone	1699-1703
Thomas Tench	1703-04
John Seymour	1704-09
Edward Lloyd, President	1703-14
John Hart	1714-15

#### PROPRIETARY GOVERNMENT.

John Hart	1715-20
Charles Calvert	1720-27
Benedict Leonard Calvert	1727-32
Samuel Ogle	1732-33
Charles, fifth Lord Baltimore	1733-35
Samuel Ogle	1735-42
Thomas Bladen	1742-47
Samuel Ogle	1747-52
Benjamin Tasker, President	1752-53
Horatio Sharpe	1753-59
Robert Eden	1759-71

#### THE REVOLUTION.

Convention and Council of Safety	1774-76
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#### STATE GOVERNMENT.

Thomas Johnson	1777-79
Thomas Sim Lee	1779-82
William Paca	1782-85
William Swallow	1785-88
John Eager Howard	1788-91
George Plater	1791-92
Thomas Sim Lee	1792-94
John H. Stone	1794-97
John Henry	1797-98
Benjamin Ogle	1798-1801
John Francis Mercer	1801-03
Robert Bowie	1803-06
Robert Wright	1806-09
Edward Lloyd	1809-11
Robert Bowie	1811-12
Levin Winder	1812-15
C. Ridgely	1815-18
Charles Goldsborough	1818-19
Samuel Sprigg	1819-22
Samuel Stevens, Jr.	1822-25
Joseph Kent	1825-28
Daniel Martin	1828-29
Thomas King Carroll	1829-30
Daniel Martin	1830-31
George Howard (acting)	1831-32
George Howard	1832-33
James Thomas	1833-35
Thomas W. Veazey	1835-38
William Grason	1838-41
Francis Thomas	1841-44
Thomas G. Pratt	1844-47
Philip F. Thomas	1847-50
Enoch Lewis Lowe	1850-53
Thomas Watkins Lizon	1853-57
Thomas Holliday Hicks	1857-61
Augustus W. Bradford	1861-65
Thomas Swann	1865-69
Oden Bowie	1869-72
Wm. Pinkney White	1872-75
James B. Groom	1875-76
John Lee Carroll	1876-80
William T. Hamilton	1880-84
Robert M. McLane	1884-85
Henry Lloyd	1885-88
Elihu E. Jackson	1888-92

#### GOVERNOR DE WITT CLINTON.

CORNING, Iowa.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give a sketch of De Witt Clinton?  
CLARA CASTLE.

*Answer.*—The public career of De Witt Clinton covers a period of over a third of a century, and some of the most important decades in the formation and development of the government. He was born at Little Britain, Orange County, N. Y., March 2, 1769. His father was General James Clinton, and his uncle was the great George Clinton, who was Governor of New York State and fourth Vice President of the United States. De Witt was graduated at Columbia College, New York, in 1786, studied law, and in 1790 he became the private secretary of Governor Clinton. He entered public life as a Republican or Anti-Federalist, and was elected a member of the State House of Representatives in 1797, and to the State Senate in 1798. In the year 1801, at the age of 32, he was elected a Senator of the United States. In the year 1803 he was appointed Mayor of the City of New York—an office then filled by the Governor and Council. He held the office of Mayor for nearly eleven years. He was also Lieutenant Governor of New York from 1811 to 1813, besides having served in 1809 as one of the commissioners to examine and survey a route

for a canal from the Hudson to Lake Erie. In the year 1812 he took a decided stand against President Madison with regard to the war with Great Britain, and became the opponent of Madison for the Presidency. He received eighty-nine electoral votes for the Presidency, cast by Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. For a time his course estranged many of his former party associates of the Republican (i. e., Democratic) faith. It was through his influence more than that of any other one man of the day that the Erie Canal was constructed. In the year 1817 he was elected Governor of New York by a vote that was practically unanimous, and in 1820 he was re-elected. In 1822 he declined to be a candidate for the office of Governor. He was removed from the office of canal commissioner, a position which he had held with distinction, but in 1824 he was again elected Governor of the State by a large majority. The year 1825 witnessed the completion of the Erie Canal, and was notable for the great prosperity which that vast water-way brought to the city and State of New York. Again, in 1826, he was elected Governor, and died at Albany before the expiration of his term of office, on Feb. 11, 1828. He was one of the most conspicuous of the public men of his time. His temperament was ardent, his manners were dignified, his personal appearance distinguished, and he was throughout all his public service one of the great men of the early part of the century.

#### GENERAL SAM HOUSTON.

ATWOOD, Kan.

Give a sketch of General Sam. Houston. What drove him into exile among the Indians?

INQUIRER.

*Answer.*—Samuel Houston was born near Lexington, Va., March 2, 1793. His family went to Tennessee when he was quite young, where he became very intimate with some Cherokee Indians, and the tribe adopted him as one of their nation. He enlisted as a private soldier in the war of 1812, was chosen ensign, and fought under Jackson with a courage that won the lasting friendship of that general. Leaving the army in 1818 Houston became a lawyer, and was a member of Congress from 1823 to 1827. In the latter year he was elected Governor of Tennessee. In 1829 he was married to the daughter of a former governor of the State, but finding a few months later that the young lady had been persuaded into marrying him, against her own wishes, he voluntarily abandoned her, and went to take up his residence among the Cherokees. He was made a chief by the Indians, and lived with them a number of years, especially endeavoring to protect them from fraud. The Texas war at last opened a new field to his restless ambition.

He went to that Territory, was made commander of its army, and in the battle of San Jacinto, April 21, 1836, destroyed the entire Mexican army and achieved the independence of Texas. He was made President of the Territory in 1836, and was a second time re-elected to the office, and on the annexation of Texas to the United States in 1845 he was sent to the National Senate, where he remained until 1859, when he was made Governor of Texas. He opposed the secession movement, and when the State had withdrawn from the Union he resigned his office rather than take the oath of allegiance to the Southern Confederacy.

#### THE COMMUTATOR.

CHEEOKKE, Iowa.

Describe the commutator on electric dynamos, and tell how it works.

READER.

*Answer.*—The function of the commutator in electric machines answers to that of the crank which turns the wheel of a locomotive. Alternating currents in electricity, or alternating action in mechanical devices, may be found useful in some instances, but for most purposes a direct and continuous flow of power is needed. The piston in a locomotive cylinder moves up and down, a little way in one direction and then a little way in another; but though the locomotive takes all its motion from that of the piston, it does not take also the to and fro movement. When this movement reaches the wheels, a crank, by pushing the wheel above the hub, and pulling it below, converts it into a uniform rotary movement, so that the wheel can only turn in one direction, and the locomotive goes straight ahead. The commutator of an electric machine, which, as we have said, acts the part of the crank on a locomotive wheel, is made in many forms; we will describe one of the simplest. It consists in this, of a simple piece of tubing (brass or copper) slit longitudinally into two portions, and so fixed upon the axis of the armature that it will revolve with it, the two halves of the tube being placed upon a small cylinder of ivory or similar material. One half of the tube is attached to one end of the wire of the coil—or, where there are several, to ends of all the wires—and the other half to the other end or ends. Two springs or brushes are laid so as to press against the split tube. Now, during each revolution of the armature which carries the coil the current reverses; that is, during half of the revolution it flows toward the commutator and during the other half it flows from it. Each end of the wire being connected with a separate part of the commutator, it is plain that while the armature is passing the upper part of its revolution, the current will flow to the commutator plate which is uppermost, and during the other part of the revolution the reversed current will flow from the

other or lower commutator plate. Each half of the split tube then, in passing over the top of its axis, will give to the upper spring (or brush) the current flowing into it, while the lower spring will always seem to be feeding the return currents back to the lower half of the split tube. And it is plain that if circuits are connected with the springs, a continuous current may be made to flow through the wire from the upper spring to the lower one. In all dynamo-electric machines wherein the alternating current is used the currents which are produced in the coils must be converted into direct currents by being passed through a commutator before they go to the line wire.

#### THE REPUBLIC OF HAYTI.

MARTIN, Wm.

When was the Republic of Hayti established, and what causes led to its independence? What kind of a republic is it? Give a brief sketch of it.  
E. E. CAGE.

*Answer.*—The Island of Hayti is divided into two states, the Republic of San Domingo, comprising the eastern or Spanish part, and the Republic of Hayti, including the western or French part. This island was the second place which Columbus visited in the new world, and he planted a colony there in the first year of discovery, 1492. The Spanish rapidly settled the island, and their cruelties in a short time nearly exterminated the first inhabitants. In the latter part of the sixteenth century the Spanish population was largely drawn away by the greater opportunities for plunder offered by Mexico and Peru, and the beautiful island became almost a waste. The French took advantage of this, and settled a colony there in 1630, and held possession in spite of the efforts of the Spanish to drive them away. By the treaty of Ryswick, in 1697, the western part of the island was ceded to France, and the boundary between the two parts was fixed in 1777 to run from the mouth of the Daxabon River, on the northern side of the island, to that of the Pedruales, on the southern. The revolution of 1790—for full account of which see *Our Curiosity Shop* book of 1885—resulted in giving the most of the power into the hands of the negroes and free mulattoes. While the civil war was in progress the English conquered and held the western coast, and the Spanish encroached upon the French part of the island. The energy of the army led by Toussaint L'Ouverture expelled these intruders, and by the treaty of Bale, Spain yielded all her claim on the island to France. Under the government of the intelligent and patriotic L'Ouverture, the prosperity of the island was reviving, when this leader was treacherously seized and carried to France, where he died. The Haytians found a new leader in Dessalines, whom in 1804, when they formally declared their independence, they

chose as Governor for life. This ruler unwisely assumed the title of Emperor, and was murdered in 1806. The island was now divided among several chiefs, and during their struggle for supremacy Spain again secured possession of its eastern part. Petion was ruler of the southwest portion with the title of President. He was intelligent and humane, and when he died, in 1818, he was universally lamented. General Boyer, who succeeded him, in 1822 united the entire island under his rule, and in 1825 France, that up to this time had claimed the form of a protectorate over the western part of the island, formally acknowledged its independence on condition of the payment of a large sum as indemnity for the losses of the white colonists during the revolution. Boyer held the Presidency until 1842, when a revolution broke out, and he was compelled to flee, and in 1844 the inhabitants of the eastern part of the island formed themselves into an independent state, taking the name of the Dominican Republic. The supreme power in Hayti was held in the following years, successively, by Herard, Guerrier, and Pierrot, till March, 1847, when General Faustin Soulouque was elected President. In 1849 this ruler assumed the title of Emperor, and in 1850 was crowned with great pomp. His extravagance and folly gave rise to much general discontent, and he was deposed in 1858 and a republic was proclaimed. Its first President was Geffrard, whose administration was so unwise that the citizens rose against him in February, 1867, and he fled the country. In the following June a constitution was adopted, and Sainve proclaimed President under it. Another insurrection broke out against this President in 1868. He endeavored to defend himself, but was overpowered and forced to surrender in January, 1870; was then tried and put to death. May 29 following, Nissage-Saget was named President. He was succeeded in 1875 by General Domingue. In 1879 General Salomon was elected for a term of seven years. A rebellion broke out against him in 1882, which was quelled in 1885. Salomon was re-elected in 1886 for another term of seven years. There was a strong party opposed to him, however, and, an outbreak occurring in June, 1888, Salomon, who was an old man, did not attempt to resist, but abdicated and left the country. General Thelemaque, the leader of the insurgents was the favorite candidate for the next President, but he was killed in September before the election was held. Before all the electors had assembled, Legitime, one of the generals of the army, induced a part of their number to invest him with supreme power. Then followed another term of civil war, those unwilling to acquiesce in Legitime's rule ranging themselves

under the leadership of General Hippolyte. The war was ended in August, 1889, by the overthrow of Legitime's army, and Hippolyte was then peacefully installed as President. The constitution of Hayti, which was adopted in 1867, vests the legislative power in a national assembly of two houses. The House of Representatives is elected by the direct vote of all male citizens engaged in some occupation, for a term of five years, while the thirty members of the Senate are chosen for six years by the lower house; one-third of them retire every year. The executive power is in the hands of a president, who, according to the constitution, should be elected by the people, but in recent years has generally been chosen by the united Senate and House of Representatives, sitting in national assembly, or by delegates of factions claiming to act as representatives of the people, and in some instances by the army. The president's term of office was at first four years; it was then fixed at seven. Insurrections, however, as will be seen from the above sketch, are apt to cut it short. The President's salary is \$24,000 a year. He is aided in the administration by four cabinet officers, or heads of departments.

#### THE DRAFT.

FOX LAKE, Wis.

How many drafts were called by the President during the rebellion 1861-1865, and what class of men went in each? A. L.

*Answer.*—The first suggestion of a draft was made in 1861 by Colonel R. B. Marcy, of New York, to General McClellan. The latter officer recommended that it be carried out, as men were needed at once. No drafting, however, was authorized during that year. July 1, 1862, the President called for 300,000 more volunteers for the war, and by the terms of the order these were to be drafted if they did not volunteer promptly. Aug. 9 following President Lincoln asked for an additional 300,000 men for nine months, with a like proviso for compulsory enlistment if necessary. Several orders were issued by the Secretary of War to prevent the evasion of military duty under this call, but volunteering was so generally stimulated by local pride and local bounties at the time that there was very little enforced enlistment necessary. Probably up to Feb. 1, 1863, there were not 10,000 drafted men in the army. In view of the fact that a large part of the volunteer force would soon be disbanded because of the expiration of their terms of service, early in 1863 there was brought forward in Congress an enrolment and conscription act, authorizing the President to recruit the army, when necessary, by drafting from the able-bodied male citizens of the country between the ages of 20 and 45. This measure met with considerable

objection, but finally became a law March 3. Under this law the President appointed a provost marshal general, whose office should be in Washington, and the entire country was divided into districts, with a provost marshal over each. These were to make an enrollment of all the able-bodied men of the proper age in each district. June 15 a call was made for 300,000 men under the conscription act. In the majority of instances the machinery of the draft was not put in force, as every effort was made to encourage volunteering. It is estimated that in the twelve States in which it was enforced the draft had resulted, by Dec. 1, 1863, in adding about 50,000 men to the army. It also accumulated by that time a fund of \$10,518,000, derived from "commutations," for any drafted man was allowed to buy exemption from service by paying \$300. This fund was used for bounties to the volunteer soldiers. Oct. 15, 1863, 300,000 more volunteers were called for, and it was ordered that if any State failed to raise the quota assigned to it under this call, a draft would be made to fill the deficiency, beginning Jan. 5, 1864. This call was generally filled by volunteers, but as the need of the service for more men continued imperative, 200,000 more were called for Feb. 1, 1864, and, March 14, an additional 200,000. April 15 was designated as the time up to which the number required from any district might be raised by voluntary enlistment; after that date the draft was to be put in force. July 4, 1864, Congress amended the conscription act by the provision that hereafter when any call for troops was made, the ward, town, or district which had not filled its quota by volunteer enlistment within fifty days, must proceed to complete it by draft. July 18 following, 500,000 men were called for, and Dec. 20, 300,000 more. The draft under the July call took place in September, that under the call of December in February. No objection of any consequence was offered to these drafts, and they were carried out in an entirely quiet manner. We can find no record of the exact number of men raised by them, and there are no statistics to indicate the average age or class of the drafted men. The draft riots in New York in July, 1863, were the most notable difficulties of the day.

#### COLOSSUS OF RHODES.

OTTAWA, Can.

Give a description and history of the Colossus of Rhodes. W. B.

*Answer.*—The Rhodian Colossus was a great statue of brass 126 feet high, made by the sculptor Chares about 280 B. C. The old story was that this statue bestrode the entrance to the port of Rhodes and that ships under full sail could pass under its legs. However, this statement is now regarded as a fiction. Both Strabo

and Pliny give the dimensions of this statue, but neither says that it stood over the mouth of the port. Philo, an architect of the third century, says that the Colossus stood on a block of white marble, and Lucius Ampellius, a later writer, says that it stood on a car. The assertion that it bestrode the entering ships is first found in the statements of a writer in the sixteenth century, and, as we have said, though many pictures have been drawn from imagination showing the figure in this position, antiquarians now doubt their foundation in fact. The statue was reckoned among the Seven Wonders of the ancient world. A winding staircase led to the top of it, from which could be discerned the coast of Syria and the distant shores of Egypt. The figure was thrown down by an earthquake in the year 224 B. C.

#### CHANGES IN COSTUME.

##### CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

When and through what influences were the wigs and queues, knee-breeches, wide sleeves, and varied colors of the times of the Charleses and later superseded by the somber costumes and cropped heads of the Puritans? May we expect that like causes will in the future work a like revolution in women's costumes? **QUEST.**

**Answer.**—The changes in costume are usually, we may suppose, brought about by some more or less efficient cause, but they frequently seem to be purely arbitrary. A complete revolution in costume, however, such as has taken place during the last two centuries, can only have been occasioned by a complete change in the habits of society, and was not brought about all at once, or by any single influence, but through a very gradual and slow-moving metamorphosis of taste, with frequent reversions during the progress to former fancies. The fashionable costume of the reign of Charles I. was, taken in all its particulars, the most picturesque ever worn by men in England. It consisted of a doublet of silk, satin, or velvet, with large, loose sleeves, slashed up the front, the collar was covered with a falling band of lace, and a short cloak was worn carelessly over the shoulder. The long breeches descended to the top of the wide boots and were fringed or trimmed with lace. A broad hat, adorned with a plume of feathers, was set on one side of the head, and a rapier hung from the sword-belt. The doublet was sometimes exchanged for a buff coat, nearly covered with gold lace or gold and silver embroidery, and frequently a broad scarf of silk or satin was worn as a sash. The Puritans when they came into power did not change in essential particulars the form of this costume, but had it made in somber colors, substituted a wide linen collar for that made of lace, and abjured all ornaments. With the restoration in 1660 there was a partial return to the gay costume of the previous reign. But the doublet became a square coat, the broad Van-

dyke beaver became a cocked hat, the lace collar gave way to the ruffled shirt, and the short breeches reaching to the knee came in vogue in this reign; and this costume with the addition of that monstrosity, the periwig, held its own through the entire century following. The custom of wearing wigs was brought by Charles II. from France. It originated with the court of Louis XIV. That monarch when he came to the throne, a mere child, had very beautiful hair, which hung in long waving curls upon his shoulders, and the courtiers, out of compliment to their young sovereign, had heads of false hair made to imitate his natural locks, which they called perruques. When the King grew up he returned the compliment by adopting the article himself. It is true that Charles I. and his cavaliers wore long hair in imitation of the French fashion, but the custom of donning wigs was brought in by Charles II. Oliver Cromwell and his Puritan followers denounced long hair from Biblical precept, since St. Paul had declared it to be a woman's glory, but a man's shame. Wigs attained their greatest development during the reign of James II. and that of Queen Anne, after which they gradually diminished in size, until by 1760 young men had generally given them up, or exchanged them for a small braid of natural hair tied with a ribbon at the back. The fashion of frizzing and powdering the hair, however, continued, and, indeed, was kept up for several decades during the nineteenth century, by a few faithful followers of the old customs. But the French revolution brought in the plain Roman fashion of trimming the hair, and the peruke, by degrees, disappeared from sight forever. It is said that the exchange of the three-cornered cocked hat for the round hat is also due to the French revolution. During the reign of George II. cloth came to be the general material used for men's clothing, and velvet, silk, satin, and embroidery were generally reserved for court dresses, or for waistcoat and breeches only. This naturally ended the use of gay colors for men's clothing. The lace cravat was abandoned about the middle of the eighteenth century, and in its place a black riband was worn around the neck tied in a large bow in front. To this succeeded white cambric stocks, buckled behind, and to them, about 1789, the muslin cravat, in which it was at one time the fashion to bury the chin. About the same time the shirt collar appeared and the ruffle vanished. The coat was then made with lapels and a tail, being cut square in front above the hips. The waistcoat was now deprived of its flaps, and soon made as ridiculously short as it had been before unnecessarily long. About the last decade of the eighteenth century pantaloons were introduced, and soon altogether supplanted knee-breeches. In fact, the present



costume of men, in essential particulars, was generally adopted early in the nineteenth century, and, having more advantage in comfort and durability than any which preceded it, and being far more suited to a peaceful, hard-working, and democratic era than any of the more picturesque modes of former days, is likely to hold its place for an indefinite period. It would be too much to expect, we think, that any changed conditions would ever in like manner rob female costumes of all ornament.

#### THE EDUCATION OF THE PRESIDENTS.

CHICAGO.  
How many of the Presidents of the United States were college-bred men?  
STUDENT.

*Answer.*—We may summarize the list as follows: Washington had a good English education, but never studied the ancient languages. John Adams was a Harvard man, and so was John Quincy Adams. Jefferson, Monroe, and Tyler were from William and Mary College, although Monroe did not graduate. Madison was from Princeton. Andrew Jackson, like Lincoln, Johnson, Fillmore, and Taylor, was self-educated. Van Buren received an academic education. William Henry Harrison was a student at Hampden Sidney College but did not graduate, financial difficulties depriving him of the full course. Polk was educated at the University of North Carolina. Pierce was a Bowdoin College man, and Buchanan a Dickinson College man. Grant was a West Pointer. Hayes is an alumnus of Kenyon College. Garfield was a graduate of Williams Arthur of Union, Cleveland secured an academic training, and Benjamin Harrison was a graduate of Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

#### PRUDENCE CRANDALL PHILLEO.

MANCHESTER, Iowa.  
Whofa, or was, Prudence Crandall, and what relation did she sustain to the negro question?  
C. J. FRIEND.

*Answer.*—Prudence Crandall was born of a Quaker family in Rhode Island. When she had grown to be a young woman she opened a boarding-school for young ladies at Canterbury, Conn. She was a fine teacher, and her institution became very prosperous, pupils being sent to her from all parts of Connecticut and adjoining States. In 1833 she took in a negro girl as a pupil. This aroused terrible indignation among her other pupils, and their parents threatened to withdraw all patronage from the school unless the negro was sent away. Miss Crandall was as firm as she was courageous and she not only retained the colored pupil and allowed all the white girls to go, but immediately announced her intention of carrying on her school for the exclusive benefit of negro children. She would receive, her advertisement said, "young ladies and little misses of color." A perfect fever of excitement in

Canterbury followed this announcement. Meetings of the principal citizens were held, all pledging themselves to oppose the school. The doctors would not attend a case of sickness at her house; she was forbidden to bring her pupils to any of the churches, and the excitement spread all over the State, causing the legislature to pass an act declaring that no school for colored pupils should be opened in the State for the admission of the children of non-residents. Miss Crandall opened her school, however, with quite a number of pupils. She was charged with violating the law, was arrested, and twice brought to trial and convicted—though the conviction was set aside subsequently through an informality. Finally, after the school building had been set on fire by a mob, the brave woman, fearing for the lives of her pupils, sent them home and closed the school. Not long after this Miss Crandall married a minister and went West. She resided for many years in Kansas, and the story of her heroism was altogether forgotten until a few years ago, when it became known that she was a widow, infirm and very poor. The Connecticut Legislature then granted her a pension. She died in January, 1890, at Elk Falls, Kan.

#### GREAT BRITAIN AND PORTUGAL IN AFRICA.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.  
What are the limits of the territory in dispute between England and Portugal? Give latitude and longitude, as many of the names can not be found on the maps, and the whole subject is a fog to many.  
G. W. H.

*Answer.*—The trouble in question was precipitated by the incorporation, in October, 1889, of the British South African Company, which was given control over a territory described as including "that region of South Africa lying to the north of British Bechnanaland, and to the north and west of the South African Republic, and to the west of the Portuguese dominion." This description is rather vague, still it enables the territory to be located in a general way on the map. The southern boundary is probably near 22 degrees south latitude, and the included district stretches on the north beyond the Zambesi river. From the Laputa Mountains, which are understood to be the western boundary of Sojala, the country long conceded to Portugal, it extends west to perhaps about 99 degrees east longitude. The concession includes the districts known as Matabeleland, Mashonaland, North Bechnanaland and Khamia's country, with an area of 400,000 square miles. (Part of these names, at least, will be found on any map of fair size.) No sooner was the above grant to a British company made known than the Portuguese government issued a proclamation, annexing to its dominions the whole territory between the Zambesi river on the north and the Lim-

popo on the south, the rivers Sanyati Unifuli on the west and southwest and the Mazer on the east; or (approximately) from 15 degrees to 21 degrees south latitude, and from the mountains west to 106 degrees east longitude. This claim, if allowed, would cut off from British Zambesi nearly all of the large plateau of Mashonaland. Great Britain, of course, could not allow this, and Portugal was informed that none of her claims to territory south of the Zambesi could be conceded. The trouble was then increased and complicated by intelligence of a raid made by Major Serpa Pinto, a Portuguese officer, into the Makololo country west of the bend of the Zambesi, whose inhabitants had long been under British protection. This brought from the British government an imperative demand that Portugal recede wholly from the position she had taken, which the latter, as the weaker power, was, of course obliged to do.

#### HALATION.

What is the meaning of the word "halation," used in regard to photography? TINGLEY, Iowa.  
C. C. F.

*Answer.*—In photographic processes not only has the chemical condition of the film to be taken into account, but also the optical. When light falls on a partially opaque film it is scattered by the particles of the film, and passes through the glass plate to the back. Part of the rays are thus transmitted and part of them are reflected, and a very small quantity are absorbed by the material of the glass. Of course the strongest reflection from the back of the glass takes place at the vertical angle. Therefore the image while developing on a plate is surrounded by a ring of reduced silver caused by the reflection of the scattered light from the back surface of the glass, and this ring is shaded inward and outward in such a way that the shading varies with the intensity of the light reflected at different angles. This is called "halation," and to prevent it photographers adopted the plan of covering the back of a dry plate with some material in optical contact with it, which would at the same time absorb all the rays that are photographically active, and only replace those that are incapable of reducing the silver salt. This is called "backing a plate."

#### THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

Give the route to be followed by the projected Siberian Railway. WAUSAU, Wis.  
R. L. S.

*Answer.*—There is now railroad communication across Northern Russia to Zlatoust in the Ural Mountains. The proposed route is to run from this point to Omsk, and thence down the Irtysh Valley to Semipalatinsk, thence it is to go along the northern base of the Altai Mountains, to Irkutsk, on Lake Baikal, this lake to be crossed by ferry. Thence the road follows the

boundary between Siberia and China to Svietensk, on the Amoor River. This river will be utilized, for a time at least, as far as Boosa, whence the road will run to Vladivostock, on the Japan Sea, the Pacific coast terminus. The length of the road from Zlatoust to the Pacific is about 4,000 miles. The only really difficult portions of this road are said to be those through the Ural mountains and from the river Amoor through the mountains to the sea. It is planned to run a branch southward through Manchuria to Peking in China.

#### MENENDEZ.

TALLMADGE, Mich.  
Give a biography of Melendez, the Spanish admiral. E. C. DICKERSON.

*Answer.*—Melendez, or, more correctly, Menendez, was born in 1519 and died in 1574. Little is known of his early life beyond the fact that, when yet a youth, he shipped on a Spanish war vessel in search of adventures. He came in possession of some wealth on attaining his majority, and fitting out a vessel of his own he cruised successfully against French corsairs. He then obtained a commission from the Spanish Emperor, and for his daring and success was made Captain General of the India fleet. He commanded the vessel which took Philip to England to marry Queen Mary. During the Spanish war in the Netherlands he was constantly employed carrying supplies or men to the scene of action, or clearing the sea of the vessels of the enemy. In 1565 he was made Adelantado (or Governor) of the possessions that Spain claimed in North America under the name of Florida, with orders to plant a colony there. While getting ready for this, word came that a colony of French Huguenots had settled in Florida. Menendez, being a Spaniard, hated all Frenchmen heartily, but as a Catholic he held toward the Huguenots an even more bitter hatred. He therefore increased his fleet to thirty-four vessels, and shipped nearly 3,000 men with the purpose of extirpating the Huguenot colony. He landed on the Florida coast, founded a settlement which he named St. Augustine, and thence marched overland to the fort which the French settlers had built on the St. John's River; this he surprised, and massacred nearly all the colonists there. A French fleet under Ribault was anchored at the mouth of the St. John's River, but, knowing nothing of the overland march and attack on the fort it set sail for St. Augustine, intending to surprise the Spanish there. A terrible storm arose, and the entire fleet was wrecked. Ribault, with 500 men, reached the shore alive, and they made their way painfully through an unknown, swampy country to St. Augustine. Menendez had now returned to that point, and to him Ribault and his men all surrendered on promise that their

lives should be spared. But with amazing perfidy and cruelty the Spanish commander had them all immediately put to the sword. Over his slaughtered victims Menendez placed the inscription, "Not as to Frenchmen, but as to Lutherans." Menendez then garrisoned the fort on the St. John's, which he called San Mateo, established other forts on the shore, explored the coast, and then returned to Spain. During his absence a French adventurer, Dominique de Gourgues, avenged the massacre of the French by murdering the entire Spanish garrison at San Mateo, placing over them—in retaliation for Menendez' insulting inscription—the words, "Not as to Spaniards, but as to traitors, robbers, and murderers." In 1570 Menendez sent a colony of Jesuits to the shores of the Rappahannock, who were all murdered by the Indians. Menendez hearing of this in 1572 sailed up the Potomac, attacked and slaughtered the tribe which had killed his colonists, explored the coast, and was preparing to found another colony when he was called to command a fleet to be sent against the Low Countries. While he was pushing forward the preparations for this he died.

#### COLONIAL CHARTERS.

LACOTA, Mich.

Give the number of charters that were granted by English sovereigns to the original thirteen colonies, and the rights that were given under each?

J. W. MAYBEE.

*Answer.*—Only three of the original thirteen colonies had charters directly from the King—Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. The first of these granted was the charter given by Charles I. to Massachusetts, in 1629, or rather to a corporation having the name of "Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay, in New England." The affairs of the company and the colony were put in the hands of a Governor, Deputy Governor, and eighteen assistants, or magistrates, the latter to hold monthly courts. The more important laws of the colony were to be enacted by a general assembly of all the freemen and stockholders, to be held quarterly. No royal veto on the acts of the assembly was reserved, nothing was said about religion, and all the rights of Englishmen were assured to the members of the colony. This charter and government were soon transferred from England to Massachusetts. As he thought the colony was becoming altogether too independent of the mother country, by thus holding control of its own government, Charles I. demanded the surrender of the charter, but the colonists evaded the order. During the commonwealth no interference with the colony was attempted, but Charles II., on his accession, wished to bring the colony under the direct control of the sovereign, and when resistance was made to this the matter was laid before the high court of chancery in England.

This body gave judgment in favor of the King, and the Massachusetts charter was declared forfeited. A royal governor was sent who dissolved the general assembly, and made a code of new laws for the colony. The people, however, were very impatient under these changes. A new charter was granted to Massachusetts in 1692 by King William. This provided for a Governor and Secretary, to be appointed by the King; a popular legislature was granted, but its acts were not valid unless approved by the Governor. Under this charter the government of Massachusetts was carried on until the adoption of the State Constitution in 1780.

Roger Williams secured a charter from King Charles I. in 1644, uniting the settlements of Rhode Island and Providence under one government. The first general assembly was held under this charter in 1647. The legislative power was vested in a court of commissioners consisting of six persons chosen by each of the four towns—Providence, Newport, Portsmouth, and Warwick. This charter was confirmed by Cromwell in 1653, and in 1663 a new one having similar provisions but placing a property restriction on the right of suffrage, was granted by Charles II. Under this the government of the colony was carried on and later that of the State, the charter serving as a constitution. It was not changed until 1843.

Connecticut framed a constitution for its government in 1639, and this formed the basis for a charter obtained in 1662 from King Charles II. This gave the people jurisdiction over all the land within the limits of the colony, provided for the election of a Governor, Deputy Governor, twelve magistrates, and two deputies from each town. By order of James II. Governor Andros attempted to take away the charter in 1687, but he was outwitted and the charter was hidden by the colonists. After the accession of William and Mary and the removal of Andros it was brought out and government was renewed under it. This charter was the only constitution of the province and State until 1818, when the present one was formed.

The others of the thirteen colonies were governed somewhat differently.

Two, Maryland and Pennsylvania (including Delaware), were proprietary colonies. These were granted by the King to proprietors or owners who formed governments in them, gave charters to the colonists, defined their privileges, and appointed governors for them. New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia were royal colonies, having no charters, but having governors appointed by the King and directly answerable to the King for his manner of government. Virginia had a charter from Charles I., but it was taken from her. Some of the others were proprietary governments at first, but were

given up by the proprietors because of the difficulty of sustaining them.

#### DOM PEDRO II. OF BRAZIL.

##### CHAMPAIGN, Ill.

Give a brief history of the reign of Dom Pedro, the late Emperor of Brazil, when did he come to the throne, and what events led to his downfall?

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

*Answer.*—Pedro II. de Alcantara, ex-Emperor of Brazil, was born Dec. 2, 1825. He belonged to the royal family of Portugal. In 1807 the Portuguese King and his family fled to Brazil for safety; in 1815 the colony was declared a kingdom, and in 1822, the royal family having returned to Portugal, Dom Pedro, the eldest son of the King John VI., was chosen Emperor of Brazil. In 1831 he abdicated the Brazilian throne in favor of his young son, Pedro II. The affairs of the empire were administered by a regency, until the young King reached the age of 15. He then assumed the reins of government, and was crowned in the following year. There was an attempt made during the second year of Pedro II.'s reign to overthrow the imperial government, but it was checked. The next important event was the formation of an alliance between the imperial government and a leader of a party of the Argentines, against Rosas, the Argentine dictator. The results of this were the overthrow of the latter ruler and the opening of the La Plata River to free navigation. The latter event aided greatly in promoting the commerce of Brazil, as well as that of adjoining countries. In 1862 the Brazilian government had a difficulty with Great Britain, originating in a quarrel concerning the property of an English vessel wrecked on the Brazilian coast. Other matters came in to complicate the difficulty, but it was at last settled by the arbitration of King Leopold, of Belgium. In 1865 Brazil, the Argentine Republic, and Uruguay formed an alliance against Lopez, the ruler of Paraguay, and his followers. This terminated in the overthrow of Lopez and the partition of Paraguay among the other countries. In 1871 the first law for the gradual abolition of slavery was enacted. Other enactments of the same kind were subsequently made until, in 1880, the Crown Princess Isabella, who was acting as regent during the absence of Dom Pedro, freed all the remaining slave population by royal proclamation. During his long reign Dom Pedro aided the prosperity and growth of his empire in every possible way. He was a liberal patron of arts and letters, and was interested in every movement tending toward the increase of education and enlightenment among his people. At the time of his accession the treasury of the country was poor and its civilization in a very backward state. During his long reign the country advanced greatly in power and wealth; railways, telegraphs, steam-

ships, and manufactories were built, and free education was established throughout the empire. In 1860 Emperor Pedro made a tour through every part of his vast domain, and in 1867 he opened the navigation of the Amazon to the vessels of all nations. He visited Europe several times, and came to the United States on the occasion of the Centennial Exposition in 1876. He was a man of fine education, of upright and noble character, and of most agreeable and polished manners. He was an ideal ruler, his first thought being always for the good of his subjects. Dom Pedro married, soon after his accession to the throne, a daughter of Francis I., King of the Sicilies. They had two daughters, one of whom was married to the Duke of Saxony, and died in 1871, and the other, the Crown Princess Isabella, married the Comte d'Eu, of the French House of Orleans. The overthrow of the empire in Brazil was not brought about by any act of the Emperor, but rather by the steady growth of a sentiment in favor of republican government. It is said that the act of the Princess in freeing the slaves made all the planters the enemies of the monarchy, but this of itself could not have inspired the concerted movement that brought the republic into being. The fact seems to be that the leading men of the empire had long determined that when Pedro's reign was over the empire should be set aside for a republican form of government. The Princess was not popular, and her husband was greatly disliked. When, therefore, there seemed to be good reason to believe that the Emperor, who was old and feeble, had planned to abdicate in favor of his daughter, it was decided that this change should be forestalled by a more radical one, and the republic was forthwith declared Nov. 15, 1889. To prevent conflicts with those who still clung to the old form of government, all the members of the royal family were banished from the country.

#### LABYRINTHS.

##### PENFIELD, Ill.

Give some account of the labyrinths of the ancients, how many were there, and for what purposes were they built?

READER.

*Answer.*—A labyrinth was a structure of intricate passage-ways, or rooms, through which it was impossible to find the way without a guide or clew. There were four famous labyrinths mentioned in ancient history, one in Crete, one at Lemnos, one near Olusium in Italy, and one near Lake Meris in Egypt. Of none but the last of these have any traces been found in modern times. The Cretan labyrinth was built, it was said, by Dædalus, at the order of King Minos, as a place of confinement for the Minotaur, a hideous monster, half man and half bull. The existence of no one of these characters, however, is historically substanti-

ated, nor, since the beginning of authentic history, has any record been made of the Cretan labyrinth. In modern times nothing has been found on its supposed site more labyrinthine than the caves and quarries of Mt. Ida. All that we know of the labyrinth on the island of Lemnos is that it is mentioned by Pliny. He says that it had massive gates, so well poised that a child could throw them open, that there were in it 150 handsome columns and many beautiful statues. This historian says that part of this structure was remaining in his time, but no later writer makes any mention of it, and no vestiges of it now remain. The labyrinth of Clusium is said to have been built as a tomb for the great Etrurian King, Lars Porcena. Pliny gives a description of this on the authority of an old writer, Varro, and declares it to have been one of the most stupendous works of its time, but as no traces remained to any later period, antiquarians have come to regard the whole tale as a myth. The Egyptian labyrinth was visited by both Pliny and Herodotus. It was a very large edifice, and was divided into twelve separate palaces, with a succession of splendid apartments, spacious halls, etc. There were six courts connected with the north side of the structure, and the same number with the southern, and around these were a large number of intricate passages. According to Herodotus, the structure had 3,000 rooms, 1,500 above ground and as many below. He went through the upper rooms, but was not allowed to go below, since there were kept the bodies of the sacred crocodiles and of kings. Of the part which he saw, the historian said: "The passages through the building, and the variety of windings, afforded me a thousand occasions of wonder as I passed from a hall to a chamber, and from the chamber to other buildings, and from chambers into halls. All the roofs and walls within are of stone, but the walls are farther adorned with figures of sculpture. The halls are surrounded with pillars of white stone, very closely fitted." It is not known by what things this remarkable structure was made, nor exactly for what purpose. The lower part seems to have been a burial place, and the upper rooms a place of assembly for political or religious purposes. The ruins that have been found near Fayoom, in modern Egypt, have been identified by modern antiquarians as those of the ancient labyrinth.

## COMETS OF 1881 AND 1882.

STRAND, S. D.

Was the comet so much spoken of in the summer of 1881 or 1882, or was there one each year?

F. S. PATTERSON.

*Answer.*—The most important and best-known comet of the years mentioned—because the largest—was the one which appeared in September, 1882. It was so very brilliant during a

part of the time of its appearance that it could be discerned in bright sunlight. There were, however, comets visible during both years. In 1881 there were six comets seen, two of which were visible, for a time, to the naked eye. Four comets were discovered during 1882, the third of these being the brilliant one we have mentioned.

## GOVERNORS OF FLORIDA.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.

Give a list of the Governors of the State of Florida, with their terms of office. W. A. N.

*Answer.*—The following table gives the list from the time when the territory was purchased from Spain, July, 1821:

## TERRITORIAL GOVERNORS.

Andrew Jackson	1821-22
William P. Duval	1822-34
John H. Eaton	1834-36
Richard K. Call	1836-39
Robert R. Reid	1839-41
Richard K. Call	1841-44
John Branch	1844-45

## STATE GOVERNORS.

William D. Moseley	1845-49
Thomas Brown	1849-53
James E. Broome	1853-57
Madison S. Perry	1857-61
John Milton	1861-65
William Marvin (provisional)	1865-66
David S. Walker	1866-68
Harrison Reed	1868-Dec. 31, 1872
O. B. Hart	January, 1873-March, 1874
M. L. Stearns	1874-76
George F. Drew	1876-80
W. D. Bloxham	1880-84
Edward A. Perry	1884-88
F. P. Fleming	1888

## ROSA BONHEUR.

GOLDEN, Kan.

Give a sketch of Rosa Bonheur. How should Bonheur be pronounced?

*Answer.*—Rosa Bonheur (pronounced Bo'nur') was born at Bordeaux in 1822. She was the daughter of an artist, who early instructed her in drawing. Her principal studies, however, were from living models, in reproducing which she showed remarkable talent. In 1850 she exhibited "The Nivernais Ploughing," which is regarded as her great masterpiece, and has been placed in the Luxembourg gallery. Of her many other fine paintings of animals "The Horse Fair" is the one best known in this country.

## A GEODETIC SURVEY.

FOREK, Mich.

What is a geodetic survey, and by what means is it made? A. G. L.

*Answer.*—A geodetic survey is one which includes in its scope a large extent of country, and has in view not only the production of strictly accurate maps, but also the determination of the curvature of the surface of the earth. This survey consists first in an accurate triangulation of the country to be surveyed; that is, a laying it out in a series of triangles. The angles of the triangles are then measured by theodolites; their sides are measured by ordinary surveying instruments, and then by aid of astronomical observations the latitude and

longitude of the place must be determined. It is necessary to have some knowledge both of astronomy and of trigonometry to understand how the difficult work is accomplished.

#### ROMAN RULERS.

##### MASCOUTAH, Kan.

Give a list of the rulers of Rome from the earliest times to the end of its empire. GIPSY.

*Answer.*—Roman history extends through three periods: 1, the monarchy; 2, the republic; 3, the empire. The two latter are subdivided in most histories, but for the purpose of grouping the rulers, the divisions occasioned by wars and conquests need not be considered. The first period is largely mythical, and begins with the founding of the city.

#### PERIOD OF MONARCHY.

Name of Ruler.	Time of Reign.	How Chosen.
Romulus.....	754-716 B. C.	Elected.
Numa Pompilius.....	716-673	
Tullius Hostilius.....	673-641	Grandson of Numa.
Ancus Marcius.....	641-616	
Tarquinius Priscus.....	616-578	
Servius Tullius.....	578-534	
Tarquinius Superbus.....	534-510	

The tyranny of the last Tarquin led to his expulsion from the throne, and a republic was then formed, to be ruled by two consuls, chosen each year. Lucius Junius Brutus and Tarquinius Collatinus were the first consuls chosen; the latter, however, was forced to resign, since as he was related to the exiled royal family, his loyalty was doubted. Publius Valerius was chosen in his stead. It was provided that in times of great public danger the consuls should be superseded by a special officer called a dictator, whose term of office was limited to six months, but whose power during that time was as unlimited as that of a king. The first dictator chosen was Cincinnatus, in 458 B. C., during a war with the Æquians. In 451 B. C., the consuls were set aside, and a board of ten magistrates, known as the decemvirs, was chosen in their place, to serve like the consuls, one year only. The second decemvirate, however, was so tyrannical that the office was abolished, and the consulate restored. In 444 B. C., it was enacted that instead of two consuls six military tribunes with consular power should be chosen, but some of the most important functions of government were entrusted to two censors, chosen every fifth year. In 366 B. C., a new official was provided, to be called the prætor, to have charge of the judicial department of the government, and to act for the consuls when they were away waging wars. The government by annual election of consuls was continued. An attempt was made to overthrow it in 100 B. C. by Marius, who, having been elected consul six times in succession, aimed to secure regal power. A civil war ensued, and

he was driven from the country; returning, he was again made consul, but died a few months later. Sulla, Marius' rival, was in 82 B. C. made dictator, and held the office three years. Then came the civil wars caused by the jealousy of the two great generals, Cæsar and Pompey. Cæsar, being victorious, secured supreme power, was appointed consul for ten years, then in 44 B. C. was made dictator, and received the official title of imperator. Fearing that Cæsar was aiming at kingly power, a conspiracy was formed against him, and he was assassinated during a session of the Senate, March 15, 44 B. C. Three consuls were then appointed, called a triumvirate, to hold power for a term of five years. Eight years later, Octavianus Augustus, a nephew and adopted son of the great Cæsar, was made emperor.

#### THE ROMAN EMPIRE.

Name of Ruler.	Time of Reign.	Title to Office.
Octavianus Augustus.....	*31- 14	
Tiberius (Claudius Nero).....	14- 37	Stepson of Augustus.
Caligula.....	37-41	Son of Germanicus, Roman General.
Claudius.....	41- 54	Nephew of Germanicus.
Nero.....	54- 68	Adopted son of Claudius.
Galba.....	68- 69	Governor of Spain, chosen by insurgents.
Otho.....	69	Chosen by army.
Vitellius.....	68	Defeated Otho.
Vespasianus.....	69- 75	Leader of revolt.
Titus.....	79- 81	Son of Vespasian.
Domitianus.....	81- 96	Brother of Titus.
Nerva.....	96- 98	A senator.
Trajan.....	98-117	General of army.
Hadrian.....	117-138	Adopted son of Trajan.
Antoninus Pius.....	138-161	Adopted by Hadrian.
Marcus Aurelius.....	161-180	Adopted by Antoninus.
Commodus.....	180-192	Son of M. Aurelius.
Pertinax.....	193	Chosen by army.
Didius Julianus.....	193	Bought the office.
Septimius Severus.....	193-211	Successful general.
Caracalla.....	211-217	Son of Septimius.
Macrinus.....	217	
Elagabalus.....	218-222	Son of Caracalla.
Severus Alexander.....	222-235	Adopted by Elagabalus.
Maximinus Thrax.....	235-237	Chosen by the army.
Gordianus I.....	237	Chosen by the legions of Africa.
Gordianus II.....	237	Son of Gord. I. reigned with his father a few months; killed.
Gordianus III.....	238-244	Grandson of Gord. I.
Philippus.....	244-249	Chose; by soldiers.
Decius.....	249-251	Leader of revolt in the army.
Gallus.....	251-253	Chosen by soldiers.
Emilianus.....	253	Conqueror of the Goths.
Valerianus.....	253-260	Gen. of Gallic legions.
Gallienus.....	260-268	Son of Valerian.
Claudius II.....	268-270	Chosen by soldiers.
Aurelianus.....	270-275	Successful general.
Tacitus.....	275	Chosen by the Senate.
Probus.....	276-282	Successful general.
Carus.....	282-283	A prætor.
Numerianus.....	284	Son of Carus.
Carinus.....	284	Son of Carus.
Diocletianus.....	284-305	Chosen by the army.

\*31 B. C. to 14 A. D.

The emperors to Nero, each claimed by blood or adoption connection with the Julian imperial line, so called from Julius Cæsar. The title of

imperator was after that generally taken by the man, whatever his record or nationality, who could command the favor of the soldiers. The three emperors, Vespasian, Titus, and Domitian, were all of the same family, and were called the Flavian emperors, each bearing the name Flavius. The soldiers jealously objected to any attempt to make the imperial honor hereditary, and the constant struggle of ambitious leaders to secure the supreme power, kept the empire continually torn with factional fights. Very few of the Roman emperors died a natural death. Under the rule of Diocletian the empire was so strengthened that its power enjoyed a certain revival; but this emperor essentially changed its construction. He associated with himself a colleague on the throne, Maximianus, and subsequently two others of subordinate rank. The two first rulers were called the Augusti, the two others the Cæsars. Rome then ceased to be the seat of government, and the Senate sank into absolute insignificance. But the formal transfer of the capital was not made until 330 A. D. Diocletian abdicated the dignity of one of the Augusti in 305, forcing his co-ruler to do likewise, and raised the two Cæsars, Constantius, Galerius, and Galerius to the higher dignity. The son of the first named of these two, Constantine, became in 313 the ruler of the western half of the empire, and in 323 the ruler of all. He was the first Christian Emperor. He ruled alone fourteen years, but before his death divided the administration of the empire among his three sons as Augusti, and two nephews as Cæsars. He made Byzantium, thenceforth called Constantinople, the capital of the empire. From this time must be dated the cessation of Roman ascendancy, the eastern half of the empire being the stronger, but the complete division of the two parts was not made until 395. Two of the sons of Constantine were killed, so that the whole empire came under the control of one, Constantius, in 351. He died while preparing an expedition against Julianus, who had been proclaimed ruler by the soldiers. Julian is known in history as the Apostate, because he had been a Christian but abandoned his faith on his accession to power. He reigned two years, then died. After him the soldiers chose Jovianus, who held power a year only. Then Valentinian I. was chosen, who made his brother Valens his colleague, and his successor in the east on his death in 364. Valens ruled till his death in 378. Gratian, the son of Valentinian, was Emperor of the west, and succeeded to all when Valens died. He then made Theodosius his eastern co-regent, in 379, and the latter in 394 became sole Emperor. His death in the following year precipitated the division of the empire.

## RULERS OF THE WESTERN EMPIRE.

Name of Ruler.	Length of reign.	Title to Office.
Honorius.....	395-423	Son of Theodosius.
Joannes.....	424	Usurper.
Valentinian III.....	425-455	Grandson of Theodosius.
Petronius Maximus.....	455	Chosen by the Senate.
Avitus.....	455-456	Chosen by the Senate.
Majorianus.....	457-461	Appointed by Recimir, leader of the Vandal troops
Leobius Severus....	461-465	Also chosen by Recimir.
Anthemius.....	467-472	Also chosen by Recimir.
Olybrius.....	472	Also chosen by Recimir.
Glycerius.....	473	Appointed by the Eastern Emperor.
Julius Nepos.....	473-475	Appointed by the Eastern Emperor.
Romulus Augustulus.....	475-476	Chosen by the Vandal troops.
Odoacar.....	476	.....

Odoacar was a general of the barbarian troops from the north, which at this time had taken possession of Italy. He determined to destroy the name as well as the power of the empire. At his order the Roman Senate requested the Emperor of the eastern empire to give Odoacar the title of patrician, and make him prefect of Italy. Thus ended the western empire, after a separate existence of eighty-one years.

## THE MONKS OF ST. BERNARD.

ELDORA, IOWA.

Give a sketch of the work of the St. Bernard monks in rescuing travelers.

READER.

*Answer.*—The famous convent, or hospice, of St. Bernard is situated on the crest of the St. Bernard pass, in the Pennine Alps, 8,200 feet above the level of the sea. This convent is a large cluster of buildings of gray stone. The first foundations of the buildings were laid in the year 962, by the pious Count of Menthon, in Savoy. He was a member of a noble family, but became so impressed with the perils of traversing the mountains that he built a refuge in the pass, and gave forty years of life to looking out for the travelers journeying between Switzerland and Italy, giving them food and shelter and aiding and protecting them on their way. This noble work has been carried on ever since, and now the monks give assistance and shelter to nearly twenty thousand persons every year, without asking payment of any one. Count Bernard, who was canonized after his death, left all his wealth to the convent, and it received other rich gifts, so that at one time it was very wealthy, but at the time of the reformation much of its landed property was taken from it. During the revolution of 1848, the funds of the convent were seized and the monks all removed, but such indignant protests were made by travelers against the change that the monks were soon after

allowed to return to their good work. There are houses of refuge built at some distance below the summit of the pass on each side, where are food and beds for travelers. During the winter, persons on their way over the mountains, stop at these houses over night, and each morning a servant with one of the famous large dogs kept in the convent, goes down to conduct the travelers though the snow to the convent, where they rest, and are refreshed until they wish to be escorted to the refuge on the other side of the mountain. The dog always leads the party, and though the snow often lies so deep that only the animal's tail can be seen, his body being completely buried in the drifts, he never loses his way. The dogs of St. Bernard are a cross between the Newfoundland and the Pyrenean breeds, and are very large and strong, but with all their powers of endurance, their average duration of life is only about 7 or 8 years, when they become so stiff with rheumatism that they are of no further use, and they have to be killed. The monks, too, can only bear the cold and exposure of their high altitude for a limited time, and after a residence of from twelve to fifteen years are obliged to leave their work and go to a hospital at Martigny. The convent keeps a number of horses which in summer bring them supplies from the valley. During the warm season they keep a number of cows, but send these down to the sheltered lowland in the winter. There are usually about twelve monks resident at the convent, with some seven or eight attendants, and eight to ten dogs.

#### THE STATE SEAL OF MARYLAND.

PITTSBURG, Pa.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give an account of the origin and significance of the inscriptions on the coat-of-arms of Maryland?

H. F. MCATEER.

*Answer.*—The coat-of-arms or State seal of the State of Maryland dates back to the time when it was a proprietary colony under Lord Baltimore. The first seal used by the province was stolen during the rebellion in the colony in 1644, and Lord Baltimore in the following year sent out a new one. It bore a shield on which were the Calvert and Crossland arms, surmounted with a palatine's coronet, symbolizing the jurisdiction of the proprietary, and over all the Calvert crest, which was a ducal crown with two half banners above. A plowman and a fisherman stood on either side of the shield, and beneath was a scroll bearing the Calvert motto: "Fatti Maschij Parole Femina." This translated gives an ancient Oriental proverb: "Deeds are males, words are females." Behind this was a mantle of palatine purple surrounded with the inscription—"Scuto Bonae Voluntatis tuæ Coronasti Nos"—which is from the Latin vulgate, and is freely translated in the authorized version of the Scriptures—"With

favor wilt Thou compass us as with a shield." This historic device, designed to perpetuate at once the nature of the foundation of the State government and the lineage of its founder, still remains the seal and symbol of Maryland.

#### TWO FAMOUS QUOTATIONS.

ATON, Wis.

There are two quotations that I have met with, but can not understand them, so I come to Our Curiosity Shop for information. 1. Who said, "Fold up the map of Europe," and when and why did he say it? 2. What does the expression "After us the deluge," mean, and how and by whom was it first used? STUDENT.

*Answer.*—1. The remark, "Fold up the map of Europe," is ascribed to the younger Pitt. The circumstances and exact phraseology of the remark are thus given in his biography: Immediately after the battle of Austerlitz, which was fought Dec. 2, 1805, Mr. Pitt returned to his house in Putney from a stay of some weeks in Bath, where he had gone to seek, in vain, an improvement of his health. He was very much broken, and the news of the battle, by which the Austrian and Russian armies had been defeated and the coalition of these powers with England against Napoleon destroyed, had depressed him excessively. On entering his house the first thing that he noticed was a map of Europe, drawn down upon the wall, and he therefore turned to his niece and said mournfully: "Roll up the map of Europe; it will not be wanted these ten years." His idea was, apparently, that Napoleon's power had proved so great that he could change and destroy the boundaries of European countries as he chose, and nothing could be done by the other powers, for a decade at least, to restrain him. 2. The expression, "After us the deluge," meaning, "Who cares what may happen after our time?" is sometimes ascribed to Louis XV. of France, but it is also said to have been the utterance of his mistress, Mme. de Pompadour. The artist, La Tour, who painted the Pompadour's portrait, says in one of his letters that while he was engaged on his task, the King entered the room in a state of much dejection, having just received intelligence that the combined French and Austrian army had been defeated by Frederick the Great at the battle of Roebach. The Marquise told him that he must not lose his spirits, for then he would fall ill; and, besides, it was no matter; after us the deluge. The historian Larousse, however, credited the origin of the phrase to the King, who, he says, was clear-sighted enough to see whither the corruptions and dissensions of the time were tending. One day, according to this writer, the King said to Mme. de Pompadour, "I am wearied by the quarrels of priests and lawyers; they will end by destroying the state. However, things will last my time. Berri (afterward Louis XVI.) may extricate himself



as best he may; after me the deluge." On the same subject Sainte-Beuve says: "In the midst of the contemptible deceptions and frivolities of the court, a vague and sinister foreboding haunted the King, like anticipated remorse. 'After us the deluge,' said the Marquise. 'Things will last our time,' rejoined the careless King." Whichever may have used the heartless remark, its expression is almost identical with the line of an unknown Greek poet, which was often quoted by the misanthropic emperor, Tiberius, "After my death, perish the world by fire!"

#### EGYPT AND ITS RULERS.

##### MUSCOTAH, Kan.

Give a history of the Egyptian rulers from the earliest date possible until the present time.

##### READER.

*Answer.*—The chronology of Manetho, an Egyptian historian who lived in the third century before Christ, traces the kings of that country back to the year 5004 B. C. In that year the first dynasty was founded by King Menes. Its second king was named Teti, its fifth Hesperu. No monuments of this dynasty now exist. The second dynasty comprised nine kings, of whom the second was Keku, the eighth, Sesooris. The latter named is said to have been a giant. The third dynasty was founded by the earliest of Egyptian conquerors—Necherechus, who subdued the Libyans. The last king but one of this dynasty was Senofertu, whose name means "the betterer." The fourth dynasty began about 4448 B. C., with the reign of Khufu, who built the Great Pyramid. The third king of this dynasty, Khafra, and the fourth, Menkaura, were also pyramid builders. The fifth dynasty numbered nine kings, whose reigns extended over a period of 248 years. The last king of this dynasty, Unas, built the great truncated pyramid called "Pharaoh's Seat." The first king of the sixth dynasty was Ati, who was succeeded by his son Pepi, a powerful ruler whose monuments are still found all over Egypt. He was followed by his son Mercura, and then by a younger son, Nefer-Kera, who, according to the tables, reigned a hundred years. The next king, Mentenaf, was assassinated after a reign of a year, and was succeeded by his sister, the beautiful Neit-aker, whom the Greeks called Nitocris, and with whom the dynasty ended, 3500 B. C. A period of disorder and weakness followed which lasted 436 years, and during the time four dynasties reigned, of whose history scarcely anything is known. The city of Thebes was founded during this period of anarchy, and from a family of that city came the six kings of the eleventh dynasty, whose names were alternately Entep and Mentu-hotep, and who for two centuries waged war with the people of the Delta, who endeavored to have a separate government. With the twelfth dynasty the The-

ban line was firmly established all over the kingdom. All its eight rulers were called Usurteen or Amenemhat, except the last, a queen, Sobek-nefru-ra. It was either during the thirteenth or the fourteenth dynasty, it is not certain which, that Egypt was invaded and conquered by a foreign tribe, known as the Hyksos, or Shepherd Kings. They formed the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth dynasties, holding power for a term of 511 years. During the reign of the last of the shepherd kings, Apepi, a famine of seven years is recorded, wherefore this king is thought to have been the Pharaoh in whose reign Joseph was sold into Egypt. The Hyksos were overthrown by a revolt of the Thebans, whose leader, Ahmes, founded the eighteenth dynasty. This date, about 1700 B. C., marks the beginning of a new era in the history of Egypt, the entire period of the dynasty, 241 years, being characterized by great prosperity and the accomplishment of remarkable public works. So well is this period known, through the many monuments of it still remaining, that a fairly accurate table of the lineage and succession of its rulers for two dynasties, can be made.

Name of Ruler.	Line of Descent.
<b>Eighteenth Dynasty.</b>	
Ahmes.	
Amenophis I.....	Son of Ahmes.
Thothmes I.....	Son of Amenophis.
Thothmes II.....	Son of Thoth. I.
Thothmes III.....	Brother of Thoth. II.
Amenophis II.....	Son of Thoth. III.
Thothmes IV.....	Son of Amenoph. II.
Amenophis III.....	Son of Thoth. IV.
Amenophis IV.....	Son of Amenoph. III.
Hai-em-Hebi.	
<b>Nineteenth Dynasty.</b>	
Rameses I.....	Grandson of H.-em-H.
Sethos I.....	Son-in-law of Rameses.
Rameses II.....	Son of Sethos I.
Merneptah (Pharaoh of the exodus).....	Son of Rameses II.
Merneptah II.....	Usurper.
Sethos II.....	Son of Merneptah I.

The twentieth dynasty came into power about 1288 B. C., with Nekk-Set, whose reign was brief and unimportant, but whose son and successor, Rameses III., was one of the most eminent of all the Egyptian Pharaohs. After his death an obscure period followed, during which there reigned some fourteen or more kings, all taking the name of Rameses, but under them the empire decayed and became overrun with foreigners. About 1100 B. C., a new dynasty, the twenty-first, arose in Lower Egypt, and conquered the kings at Thebes. It was one of this dynasty whose daughter was one of the wives of Solomon. The twenty-second dynasty arose about 980 B. C., its founder being Sheshonk, the Shishak of the Bible. It is thought from the names of the kings of this dynasty given in the sacred writings, Tiglath and Nabonasi, that it must have been of Assyrian descent. In 810 B. C. it was overthrown by the twenty-third dynasty, which comprised four kings only, and

held power about ninety years. The twenty-fourth dynasty consisted of a single king, Bokenruf, who reigned six years. In 715 B. C. the country was conquered by the Ethiopians, who placed a dynasty, the twenty-fifth, on the throne, in the person of their leader, Shabak. This line had four kings, and held power fifty years. An interregnum of some years followed, after which another powerful native dynasty, the twenty-sixth, arose, during whose rule the country enjoyed great prosperity. The rulers of this line were Psammetichus I., 653-610 B. C.; his son Necho I., 610-595; Psammetichus II., son of Necho, 595-589; his son, Hophra, 589-570; Amasis, an usurper, 570-526; and his son, Psammetichus III., 526-525 B. C. During the last-named year, the Egyptians were conquered by the Persian King, Cambyses. Egypt continued to be a Persian province until 405 B. C., when the people, with the aid of the Greeks, drove out the invaders, and held their independence under native rulers until 346 B. C., when they were again conquered by the Persians. Alexander the Great fourteen years later took possession of the country, and through his rule it was so transformed that it became, and remained for a thousand years, essentially a Greek country. On the division of the conqueror's empire on his death, Egypt became subject to a Greek captain, Ptolemy, surnamed Soter. The succession of the Ptolemies was as follows:

Name of Ruler.	Time Reign B. C.	
Ptolemy I. Soter.....	323-238	General of army.
Ptolemy II. Philadelphus.....	283-247	Son of P. I.
Ptolemy III. Euergetes.....	247-222	Son of P. II.
Ptolemy IV. Philopator.....	222-205	Son of P. III.
Ptolemy V. Epiphanes.....	205-181	Son of P. IV.
Ptolemy VI. Philometor.....	181-146	Son of P. V.
Ptolemy VII. Euergetes.....	146-117	Brother of P. VI.
Ptolemy VIII. Soter II.....	117-107	Son of P. VII.
Ptolemy IX. Alexander I.....	107-89	Brother of P. VIII. Had been deposed by Alexander, but restored to throne.
Ptolemy Soter II.....	89-81	
Ptolemy X. Alexander II.....	81-80	Son of P. VIII.
Ptolemy XI. Auletes.....	80-51	Son of P. VIII.
Ptolemy XII.....	51-48	Son of P. XI.
Ptolemy XIII.....	48-43	Son of P. XI.

From 164 B. C. when Ptolemy VI., having been driven from his throne by the Assyrians, invoked the aid of the Roman Senate to secure his restoration, Egypt was virtually a Roman province, and the frequent disputes among the later Ptolemies, who were as weak as they were profligate, were settled by appeal to the Roman power. Ptolemy XI left two sons and a daughter, the famous

Cleopatra. By their father's will, the eldest of the sons and Cleopatra reigned jointly, until dissensions between the young Queen and the ministers of the crown caused her brother to expel her. She raised an army to defend her cause, but would certainly have been overthrown had not the powerful Roman Cæsar taken up her cause. Ptolemy XII. was drowned in escaping from the Romans, and the younger brother, under the title of Ptolemy XIII., was associated with Cleopatra in government, by order of Cæsar. To secure for herself full power, the Queen had the young King put to death a few years later, and ruled the country, part of the time conjointly with Antony, until her death, 30 B. C. Egypt was now ruled by prefects or military governors appointed by the Romans, and subsequently by the Byzantine Emperor, until 616 A. D., when the country was taken by the forces of the Persian King, Chosroes. In 640 it was taken from the Persians by the army of the Caliph Omar, and was governed by a succession of viceroys, appointed by the Caliphs until 868. It had then an independent period of thirty-seven years, when it was again subjected, and was held under caliphate rule until 970. At this date the Fatimite caliphs, who reigned in Northern Africa, conquered Egypt and ruled for two centuries. The last of this line dying in 1171, he was succeeded by his vizier and prime minister, Saladin, who took the title of sultan, and at the time of his death, in 1193, ruled a vast empire both in Egypt and the East. His son Aziz became ruler of Egypt on the division of Saladin's empire, and this line held the sultanate until 1388, when it was overthrown by a rebellion of the Mamelukes, a body of guards organized by Saladin and his successors. These had originally been made up of slaves brought from the shores of the Caspian Sea, but had become so powerful that they aimed at securing supreme rule. These held the government until 1517, when Egypt was conquered by the Ottoman Sultan, Selim I., and became a Turkish province. It was divided by these conquerors into a number of military provinces, each ruled by a bey appointed by the Ottoman government, under the control of a supreme officer called a Pasha. The rule of the latter, however, became in time merely nominal. The misrule and tyranny of the Turks robbed the country of all prosperity. In 1768, a Mameluke rebellion under Ali Bey threw off the Turkish yoke, but, four years later, Ali Bey was betrayed and poisoned, and the nominal restoration of the authority of the Sultan began a period of confusion and civil war which lasted until the present reigning family of Egypt rose into power in 1806 in the person of Mehemet Ali, an Albanian adventurer. The succession since that date is given in the following table.

The title Khedive, or King, of Egypt has only been in use since 1866:

Name of ruler.	Length of reign.	Line of descent.
Mehemet Ali. Ibrahim. Abbas.	1806—1848 June, Nov. 1848. 1848-1854.	Son of Mehemet Grand son of Mehemet.
Said.	1854-1863.	Younger son of Mehemet.
Ismaïl. M o h a m e d Tewfik.	1863-1879. 1879—	Son of Ibrahim. Son of Ismaïl.

#### EARLY HISTORY OF TEXAS.

CHOTEAU, M. T.

Give the early history of the State of Texas. Was it a part of what is known as the Louisiana purchase or not?

S. A. MOPHRE.

*Answer.*—The first white settlement in Texas was made in 1687 by the Chevalier de La Salle, but all the members of this colony perished. A few years later a Spanish mission was established on the site of La Salle's fort, and subsequently other Spanish settlements were made, in spite of the protests of the French, who claimed the country by virtue of La Salle's discovery. For twenty years the Spaniards held full sway, but in 1735 a French colony from the Red River was taken into Texas, and this time the Spaniards protested without effect. Both the French and the Spanish, however, had much trouble with the Indians, and in 1758 a brutal massacre of all the settlers at San Saba mission by the red men caused the influx of colonists to decline. In 1763 France gave up all her claims on the Louisiana territory to Spain, but in 1803 the country was receded to France, and the same year was sold to the United States. As there had been no well defined dividing line between Louisiana and the old Spanish possessions west of it, a controversy as to the boundaries immediately arose, Spain claiming that her territory extended to the east of the Sabine, and the United States urging a right to the country as far west as the Rio Grande River. This difficulty was compromised by making the territory between the Sabine River and the Arroyo Honda neutral territory. This intervening ground offered such convenient opportunity for carrying on an illicit trade between the United States and Mexico that many adventurers settled on it, and a number of revolutionary efforts were made to secure possession of it. In 1819 the United States agreed to take the Sabine River as the boundary line between the United States and Mexico, but this treaty caused much dissatisfaction in the Western and Southwestern States. The same year another expedition was raised in Mississippi and Louisiana to take possession of the country, but it was defeated, and its leader, Dr. James Long, was soon after murdered. Texas, by means of these several revolutionary attempts, had become nearly depopulated, but in 1823 Stephen F. Austin, of Missouri, whose father had obtained a grant of land in Texas

from the Mexican government, took thither a large number of colonists and laid the foundation of the permanent growth of the territory. Texas was then united in government with the Mexican province of Coahuila, and there was much difficulty between the Mexican officials and the American settlers. In 1830 the Mexican governor undertook to forbid colonists from the United States entering the territory, and this precipitated the revolution which culminated in Texan independence. Fighting began at Gonzales Oct. 2, 1835, and Nov. 12 following the provisional government was formed. Colonel Stephen Austin was sent as envoy to the United States, and General Sam Houston was made commander-in-chief of the army. The Mexican army was defeated at San Antonio de Bexar Dec. 10, 1835, and driven from the country. The next year General Santa Anna came over the border with a large force, and March 6, 1836, after a bombardment of eleven days, captured the fortress of the Alamo, and put the entire garrison to the sword. April 21 following was fought the battle of San Jacinto, in which the Mexicans were defeated and their leader taken prisoner. This ended the war. In the meantime a convention had been held, a constitution adopted, and a provisional president chosen. In March, 1837, the United States recognized the independence of Texas. For nearly ten years Texas maintained her existence as a republic, during which time she twice asked to be annexed to the United States, only to have her requests refused. As the State became more populous and prosperous, however, the United States became anxious to take her into the Union. Annexation was finally accomplished by the vote of Congress Dec. 27, 1845, and the act was accepted by the Texan people Feb. 19, 1846. This led to the war with Mexico, which was ended in 1848. The result of this war was not only the giving up by Mexico of all claim upon Texas, but the cession of a large extent of additional territory.

#### TWO NOTED SCIENTISTS.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.

Give a brief sketch of two of the most noted scientists of this country, either chemists or botanists.

M. H.

*Answer.*—Benjamin Silliman, chemist, and Asa W. Gray, botanist, may be mentioned in answer to this request. Prof. Silliman was born in New Haven, Conn., in 1816. He was the son of the first professor of chemistry in Yale College. The younger Silliman graduated at Yale in 1837, and became an assistant instructor in his father's department. In 1842 he fitted up a laboratory for original investigation in science. This led to the establishment of the Yale Scientific School in 1847, known since 1860 as the Sheffield Scientific School. From 1849 to 1854 Prof. Silliman taught in

the university at Louisville, Ky., and left that position to become his father's successor at Yale. Prof. Silliman's literary activity was very great. He was one of the editors of the *American Journal of Science and Arts* from 1838 until his death. He wrote a great number of pamphlets and lectures, and several valuable books. He was State Chemist of Connecticut, and belonged to many scientific societies. He died in New Haven, June 14, 1885.

Asa Gray was born in Paris, N. Y., Nov. 18, 1810. He received a good grammar-school education, and graduated from a medical college. He never practiced, however, but immediately after taking his degree began the work of teaching chemistry and botany. In 1836 he published his first text-book, "Elements of Botany." About that time he began, in association with Dr. Torrey, the preparation of the "Flora of North America." This work, in two volumes, was completed in 1843. In 1873, Professor Gray began the preparation of "The Synoptical Flora of North America," a great work which he did not live to complete. In 1842 he was made professor of natural history at Harvard College, and held that place during the remainder of his life. He prepared the herbarium at Harvard, which is the largest and most valuable collection of the kind in America. The valuable acquisitions of the National Government exploring expeditions were always referred to him, and he classified them and wrote descriptive papers concerning them. He prepared a series of text-books on botany, which are now in very general use in the high-schools and academies of the United States. He wrote besides many papers, sketches, lectures, etc. He was a member of all the notable scientific societies, both of this country and Europe. He died in Cambridge, Mass., Jan. 30, 1888.

#### H. S. TAINE.

COLDWATER, Mich.

Give a sketch of the life and works of H. S. Taine, the author of "History of English Literature." How is this history regarded in the literary world?

W. WILSON.

*Answer.*—Hippolyte Adolphe Taine was born at Vouziers, France, in 1828. He was educated at the Bourbon College, and then was connected with the Normal College of Paris for five years. Since 1864 he has been professor of history and aesthetics of art in the College of Fine Arts in Paris. His first critical essay, "Titus Livius," was written in 1854 and received a prize from the French Academy. He has written a great many works on literature and art and several books of travel. Of these perhaps the best known are his "French Philosophers of the Nineteenth Century," "History of English Literature," "The Origin of Contemporary France," and "The Ancient Regime." His

work on English literature takes rank as the finest critical work on the subject ever written by one to whom the English was not a native tongue.

#### FRANZ ABT.

CHICAGO.

Give a brief sketch of the musical composer, Franz Abt.

I. S. ABT.

*Answer.*—Franz Abt was born at Eibenburg, in Prussian Saxony, Dec. 22, 1819. He studied theology at Leipzig University, but soon after gave up the church and devoted himself to music. He became Kapellmeister at Zurich, and reached the same honor at Brunswick in 1855. He composed many songs that have been very popular. He died April 1, 1885.

#### GOVERNORS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

BUCHANAN, Mich.

Give a list of the Governors of South Carolina, from the earliest times to the present day, with their terms of office.

H. M. B.

*Answer.*—The following table furnishes the information desired, giving the names of the Governors, with the dates of their terms:

Charles Pinckney.....	1789-92
Arnoldus Vanderbopst.....	1792-94
William Moultrie.....	1794-96
Charles Pinckney.....	1796-98
Edward Rutledge.....	1798-1800
John Drayton (acting).....	1800-02
James B. Richardson.....	1802-04
Paul Hamilton.....	1804-06
Charles Pinckney.....	1806-08
John Drayton.....	1808-10
Henry Middleton.....	1810-12
Joseph Alston.....	1812-14
David R. Williams.....	1814-16
Andrew Pickens.....	1816-18
John Geddes.....	1818-20
Thomas Bennett.....	1820-22
John L. Wilson.....	1822-24
Richard J. Manning.....	1824-26
John Taylor.....	1826-28
Stephen D. Miller.....	1828-30
James Hamilton.....	1830-32
Robert Y. Hayne.....	1832-34
George McDuffie.....	1834-36
Pierce M. Butler.....	1836-38
Patrick Noble.....	1838-40
B. K. Hennegan (acting).....	1840-42
James H. Hammond.....	1842-44
William Aiken.....	1844-46
David Johnson.....	1846-48
W. B. Seabrook.....	1848-50
John H. Means.....	1850-52
John L. Manning.....	1852-54
James H. Adams.....	1854-56
Robert F. W. Alston.....	1856-58
William H. Gist.....	1858-60
Francis W. Pickens.....	1860-62
M. L. Bonham.....	1862-64
A. G. Magrath.....	1864-66
Benjamin F. Perry (provis.).....	1866-68
James L. Orr.....	1868-70
Robert K. Scott.....	1870-72
Franklin J. Moses, Jr.....	1872-75
Daniel H. Chamberlain.....	1875-76
Wade Hampton.....	1876-80
Johnson Hagood.....	1880-82
Hugh S. Thompson.....	1882-84
John P. Richardson.....	1884-90

#### THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH.

CHICAGO.

Give a brief biographical sketch of T. B. Aldrich, the poet and author, and mention his principal works.

READER.

*Answer.*—Thomas Bailey Aldrich was born at Portsmouth, N. H., in 1836. He passed much

of his youth in Louisiana, subsequently came to New York, and spent three years in a counting-house. He then became a reader for a large publishing firm, and began to contribute to the New York literary journals. His first volume of verses was issued in 1854, and in following years a number of other small volumes were published. All of his poems were collected in 1876 into one volume under the title of "Cloth of Gold." Later volumes of his verse have been "Flower and Thorn" (1878) and "Mer-cides" (1883). Among his prose works are "The Story of a Bad Boy" (1869), "Prudence Palfrey" (1874), "The Queen of Sheba" (1877), "The Stillwater Tragedy" (1880), and "From Ponkapog to Pesh" (1882).

## FRENCH LAW OF CITIZENSHIP.

CONWAY, Iowa.

Would a Frenchman, who has taken out his papers and has become a citizen of the United States, be subject to military duty in France if he should return there for a short time? D. M. W.

*Answer.*—The law of citizenship in France has always been very stringent, and by a recent enactment, which was passed by the French Assembly during the summer of 1889, it has been made more exacting than ever. The old law maintained that the son of a Frenchman is French wherever he may be born, and the new decree makes the same claim, and still further makes French—first, all those born in France, whose fathers were also born in France though not French; and, second, those born in France whose fathers were neither French nor born in that country, if they reside in France at the time of their coming of age. Under the old law, those of these last two classes were allowed the privilege of claiming French citizenship; now it is forced upon them. A man of French birth, though he may have been naturalized in the United States, becomes a French citizen as soon as he returns to France, though only for a limited period, and if called upon for military service can not be released, under the new statute, by applying to the courts, but must have a special order of release from the French government. No Frenchman is permitted to surrender his original nationality by the effects of the laws of another country, unless the French laws sanction it. Therefore, native Americans of French parentage are, in the eye of the French law, Frenchmen and liable to military service in France. No man of French birth or descent is held to be freed from his obligation as a Frenchman unless fully released therefrom by a special act of the French government.

## BEACON HILL.

SHELBY, Mich.

Why is a certain part of Boston known as Beacon Hill?

E. R. J.

*Answer.*—Beacon Hill was originally the highest of the three hills on which Boston was

built. The name of the hill was taken from a beacon that was placed there about 1634, to alarm the country in case of invasion. This beacon, which occupied almost the exact site on which the present State House was built, was a tall mast. It stood on cross timbers placed on a stone foundation, supported by braces, and was ascended by tree-nails driven into it. Sixty-five feet from the base a crane of iron projected, from which an iron skeleton frame was suspended, to receive a barrel of tar or other combustibles. When set on fire this could be seen for a great distance inland. The beacon support fell from some cause unknown about 1767, and the next year was erected again, and in 1789 it was blown down and was not re-erected. The next year a monument of brick was built on its site to the memory of those who fell at Bunker Hill, and early in this century this monument was removed to make room for the State House.

## GOVERNORS OF KENTUCKY.

BUCHANAN, Mich.

Give the list of Governors of Kentucky from the earliest settlement of the State to the present time.

H. M. B.

*Answer.*—The following list gives the information desired:

Isaac Shelby.....	1792-96
James Garrard.....	1796-1804
Christopher Greenup.....	1804-08
Charles Scott.....	1808-12
Isaac Shelby.....	1812-16
George Madison.....	1816-16
Gabriel Slaughter (acting).....	1816-20
John Adair.....	1820-24
Joseph Desha.....	1824-28
Thomas Metcalfe.....	1828-32
John Brethitt.....	1832-34
James T. Morehead (acting).....	1834-36
James Clark.....	1836-37
Charles A. Wickliffe.....	1837-40
Robert P. Letcher.....	1840-44
William Owsley.....	1844-48
John J. Crittenden.....	1848-50
John L. Helm (acting).....	1850-51
Lazarus W. Powell.....	1851-55
Charles T. Morehead.....	1855-59
Beriah H. Magoffin.....	1859-61
James F. Robinson.....	1861-63
Thomas E. Bramlette.....	1863-67
John L. Helm.....	1867-67
John W. Stevenson (acting).....	1867-68
John W. Stevenson.....	1868-72
Preston H. Leslie.....	1872-76
James B. McCreary.....	1876-79
L. P. Blackburn.....	1879-83
J. Proctor Knott.....	1883-87
Simon B. Buckner.....	1887-

## SMALL COINS.

GENESEO, Ill.

1. In what year was the nickel or eagle penny first coined? 2. In what year was the 2-cent piece first coined, and the nickel 3-cent piece? 3. When was the nickel 5-cent piece first made, and in what years, if any, were there none coined?

W. J. TOPPING.

*Answer.*—By the act of Feb. 26, 1857, the coinage of copper cents and half-cents was discontinued, and a cent of seventy-two grains, composed of eighty-eight parts copper and twelve parts nickel, was authorized, which was coined until the act of April 22, 1864, provided for the coinage of the bronze cent, having 95

per cent of copper and 5 per cent of tin and zinc. The same act provided for the coinage of 2-cent bronze pieces of the same alloy. This 2-cent piece was discontinued by the coinage act of Feb. 12, 1873. March 3, 1865, an act authorized a 3-cent coin of thirty grains, three-fourths copper and one-fourth nickel, and May 16, 1866, the coinage of a 5-cent piece of the same alloy, and weighing 77.16 grains, was provided for. Both these pieces are still coined; we can not say whether their issue has ever been omitted during any year.

#### FIRST THEATER IN THE UNITED STATES.

HUBON, Dak.

When was the first theater opened in the United States, and where was it? S. R. T.

*Answer.*—It is said that an amateur theatrical company performed plays in New York in 1750, and that there was a stage performance in Boston during the same year; though whether these were both by the same company is not stated. But the first regular theatrical company seen in America came from England in 1752, under the leadership of a Mr. Hallam, landed at York, Va., and by permission of Governor Dinwiddie, rented a public hall, and performed plays at Williamsburg, Va. Their first performance was given Sept. 5, 1752. This company went after a few months to Annapolis, Md., and there the first regular theater in America was erected. Sept. 17, 1753, the same company opened a theater in New York, and the manager being urged to visit Philadelphia also, he took his company thither in April, and gave a number of performances in the only building available, which was a large storehouse.

#### A FREEBOOTER OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

MERRIAM, Ind.

Give an account of Martin Schenk and his attack on Nymwegen in 1589. SILAS COOK.

*Answer.*—Martin Schenk was a famous freebooter of the wars between Spain and the Netherlands. He was born in 1549 of a noble family of Gelderland, but inherited no patrimony save his sword. While yet a youth he joined the banner of William of Orange, but soon after gave up this allegiance and joined the Duke of Parma. He established himself in a castle, gathered a band of desperadoes about him, and amassed great wealth by plundering his native province. The historian, Motley, says of him: "He was a man who was never sober, yet who never smiled. His habitual intoxication seemed only to increase both his audacity and his taciturnity, without disturbing his reason. He was incapable of fear, fatigue, or remorse. His soldiers followed him about like hounds and were treated by him like hounds. He habitually scourged them, often took with his own hand the lives of such as displeased him, and had been known to cause individuals of them to jump from the top of

church steeples at his command; yet the pack were ever staunch to his orders, for they knew that he always led them where the game was plenty." While in the service of Parma, he had won two most brilliant victories over Count Hohenlohe, the German noble who commanded the army of the patriots, but though he was the most daring and successful Netherlander that served the Spanish King he received few public rewards, and no added wealth beyond that which he gained by plunder. Becoming much dissatisfied at this neglect, therefore, in 1585 Schenk sold his sword and his robber-castle to the patriots. They paid him well for them, and after this he served the States well and faithfully for years, performing many daring exploits, and winning brilliant victories for them. But the fortunes of the patriots fluctuated during these years, and they were unable to hold the city of Bonn and other places that Schenk had captured on the border. The robber chief, therefore, built a fort on the Rhine Island of Batavia, and here conducted a war on his own account, sailing out at intervals to levy blackmail on the farmers, or to plunder the Spanish wagon trains bearing supplies. Not far from his fort was the city of Nymwegen (or Nimeguen), which was then a part of the Spanish possessions. It was a very wealthy city, and Schenk had long coveted the privilege of plundering it. So on a dark night in August, 1589, this robber chief, with twenty-five barges filled with soldiers, dropped down the river Waal and anchored before Nymwegen. Taking part of his men with him, he broke through one of the city gates, killed the guard, and made his way through the silent streets to a stately mansion, where a wedding feast was in progress. The mail-clad chief and his musketeers forced their way into the house, and the revellers fled in terror. In a very brief time the town was aroused and Schenk and his men were surrounded in the house of which they had so unceremoniously taken possession. The chief looked impatiently for the rest of his soldiers to come to his aid, but, as it happened, these had been carried by the swift current down the river and were unable to land. Day broke, and the entire city had turned out to attack the invaders. Terrified at sight of the throngs in the city's streets, Schenk's soldiers refused to attempt to barricade themselves in the house, and, breaking out, fled toward the wharf. Their leader was borne along with the frightened band, which was pursued with shots and stones from the infuriated crowd of citizens. On reaching the pier the other soldiers were seen in the barges far down the stream, vainly struggling against the swift current. The soldiers on the wharf sprang into the small boats moored there. Their

leader, furious at the cowardice of his men but unable to make any stand against the angry crowd behind without them, leaped into the last boat as it was moving off. The small skiff, already overloaded, went down with the additional weight, and Martin Sohenk, encumbered with his heavy suit of mail, sank at once to the bottom of the river. His body was fished up some days after by some of the inhabitants of Nymwegen, who, to show their hatred of the great freebooter, cut off his head and put it on one of the turrets of the town, and cutting the body into four pieces, used these also to deck the battlements. Some time subsequently these mutilated remains were packed in a chest and put in a church tower. Several years later, when Maurice of Nassau took the city, he buried these relics of the famous freebooter with great pomp in the tomb of the ancient dukes of Gelderland.

#### THE GRECIAN MILO.

DEWITT, Mich.

Give a sketch of the life and achievements of Milo, the great wrestler of ancient Greece.

F. A. W.

*Answer.*—Milo was a famous athlete of Crotona, in Italy. He had developed his muscular power in various ways, so that he came to be a wonder of strength. Many curious stories are told of him in the ancient legends. It was said that he could hold a pomegranate in his hand, with his fingers closed around it, and while not even pressing the fruit, could yet keep his fingers bent so firmly that no one could open his hand in the least. He could tie a cord around his brow, and by holding his breath and causing the veins of his head to distend, could break the cord asunder. He could hold his hand behind his back, with thumb raised and fingers extended, and the strongest man could not move the little finger apart from the rest. To support his great vigor it is said that he ate every day twenty pounds of animal food and twenty pounds of bread, and drank fifteen pints of wine. This athlete was crowned seven times as victor in the Pythian games, and six times at the Olympic, and his victories only ceased when no one dared to come forward to contest with him. He once had an opportunity of putting his great strength to very good use. While attending one of the lectures of Pythagoras the column which supported the roof of the hall was seen to be giving way, whereupon Milo, bidding the assemblage to withdraw quietly, upheld the entire superstructure until all had escaped safely, and then saved himself. He led the army of Crotona against the Sybarites in B. C. 509, and gained a signal victory. The story of his death is a melancholy one. When an old man, he was cutting a tree in the forest, and had partially split it by inserting wedges. He then thrust his hands into the opening, believing that he could thus rend the

tree asunder. His strength was not equal to this effort, the wedges fell out, and his hands were held so tight in the cleft tree that he could not free them. In this hopeless situation, unable to bring any one by his cries for aid, the old man was set upon and devoured by wolves.

#### SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN RUSSIA.

FREEPORT, Ill.

Give an account of the present social conditions in Russia.

W. H. R.

*Answer.*—It is difficult to delineate in any limited space the social conditions of the inhabitants of Russia, since these include a great variety of nationalities. There are forty different languages spoken in the empire, but the predominant races are the Slavs, in two principal divisions, the Russians, and the Poles, to which must be added the Lithuanians, the Germans of the Baltic provinces, and the various tribes of Finns. The Russians are divided into Great Russians and Little Russians. The Great Russians are the predominant race, and constitute about one-fourth the entire number of the people. Their language is used throughout the empire by the government and the majority of the nation. As to social position, among this race the population was originally divided into three classes with hereditary rights, the nobles, the dwellers in towns, and the country people. Peter the Great abolished the privileges of the highest class of nobles, the boyars, who were next to the princes in rank, and constituted a ruling political class, dividing among themselves all the lucrative government offices. Since that time the nobility have largely lost their privileges as a caste, and the offices of the empire are nominally accessible to all. A regulation was, however, established in the eighteenth century, which still exists, according to which the State officials are divided into fourteen classes. The first eight of these classes have hereditary nobility conferred on them, while the other classes have only personal nobility granted to them. The bulk of the population consists of peasants. These were, before the act of emancipation, divided into three classes, free peasants, crown peasants, and serfs. In 1861 an imperial decree liberated the serfs. This law caused great social changes in Russia, and the difficulty of carrying it into operation caused many and great disorders. The peasants that had been attached to the soil acquired the right of free cultivation. They also received allotments of arable land, these allotments being given over to the rural communes, by which they were given to the peasantry; and a system of government loans was instituted, through which the lords of the soil were in a measure compensated for the lands given to the peasantry. The commune is the system of local government throughout a large part of Russia. It is the nearest approach to socialistic government that has ever been

carried into successful operation. By it, all the lands fit for cultivation are periodically divided among the people. The taking of all hereditary rights from the former lords of the soil, caused discontent among the higher classes, while the peasant, with all the advantage of proprietorship offered him, did not readily adjust himself to the new condition of things. A large part of the social agitation that has prevailed during the last twenty years in Russia, can be traced to these changes, though they have now to a great extent adjusted themselves. To further understand the existing conditions in Russia, the reader is referred to articles in Our Curiosity Shop book for 1888, on the local and general government in that country and on the educational system there.

#### PLANT MOVEMENTS—INSECTIVOROUS PLANTS.

BISHOP HILL, Ill.

What is plant motion?

E. W. L.

AURORA, Ind.

Tell us something about the plants that are said to eat insects.

READER.

Answer.—1. Plants have a number of automatic movements which can be readily observed. There are several species of flowers, the portulaca, morning-glory, and others that open in the early morning and close when the hot rays of the sun fall upon them. There are also plants whose blossoms always close at night, and some whose leaves take a different position at nightfall. Sometimes these movements of leaves and flowers are very gradual; in other instances, as in that of the evening primrose, the petals open with a sudden jerk. The movements of climbing plants are very interesting. The free end of a twining stem makes a rotary movement of greater or less rapidity (on a hot day the end of a hop vine describes a circle in about an hour), and when the stem comes in contact with a support it winds itself around it. Tendrils move in a similar manner, and when the hooked end of the tendril catches a twig or other object, the tendril twists itself into a coil, as if it meant to draw its plant nearer to the support. One-half of a coil thus made is twisted in an opposite direction to the other half, but if the tendril does not secure some support after some time it forms a simple coil, the spiral all running in the same direction. Tendrils can also be made to coil up by rubbing them. Some plants have also regular, constant movements. In the flowers of some varieties of orchids the lower petal rises or falls with a regular movement; the desmodium, a well-known greenhouse plant, has tri-foliate leaves, two of which move day and night by a series of regular, visible jerks. There are still other plants whose movements are induced by some outside agency, touching, rubbing, or pinching the plant. The best known instance of this is the mimosa or sensitive plant, of which there are several spe-

cies. When undisturbed and in a bright light the mimosa leaves stand nearly at right angles to the stem, but a slight touch causes them to fold and droop as if dead. The change in the position of the leaf is effected by three distinct movements: First, the leaflets close in pairs, bring their faces together, and incline forward; then the small branches of the leaf approach each other, and finally the main leaf stalk turns directly downward, bending at its union with the stem. If the plant is then left untouched for some time the leaves gradually resume their normal position. Some of the mimosa species are far less sensitive than others. Another instance of sensitiveness of plants is shown by the common barberry, the stamens of whose blossoms move upon contact with any outside object. An even more remarkable example of plant movement than any which we have yet mentioned is given by the drosera or sundew, the diosma or Venus' fly-trap, and other plants of the same kind. This brings us to the facts called for by our second query. 2. Insectivorous plants include several which possess certain complex arrangements for seizing insects and which consume them and absorb their juices. In fact they so greatly resemble animals that they seem to have not only a nervous, but also a digestive system. The common sundew, the best known of these plants, bears several leaves arranged in a rosette around the flower-stalk. The upper surface of these leaves is covered with a large number of fine hairs, which, under a microscope, are seen to be tentacles with glands at their ends from which exude drops of a viscid dew. This dew on the hair-like tentacles glistens in the sunlight, and seems to attract flies and other insects to the plant. These, on alighting on the leaf, immediately have their little feet entangled in the viscid secretion. The tentacles then bend inward, the sides of the whole leaf turn upward, and the insect is thus pushed into the center of the leaf, which has now become a cup-shaped receptacle, holding in its hollow a little pool of the gummy liquor of the glands. In this liquid the helpless insect struggles vainly for a while, and then succumbs to its fate and dies. The Venus' fly-trap has a two-lobed leaf, having a row of bristles around the outer edge of each lobe, and on the inside several very delicate hairs or filaments. As soon as an insect, hovering about the leaf, touches one of these hairs, the lobes of the leaf, which are attached at the back of a hinge-like mid-rib, come together with a snap and the insect is caught. As soon as the leaf shuts up thus its inner sides exude an acid secretion, which rapidly dissolves the soft parts of the insect. Of the pitcher-plant, another insectivorous variety, there are several kinds. The



*sarracenia* has a large trumpet-shaped leaf with a spreading lid. The inner surface of this lid is often gaily colored and is always covered with a sweet secretion. The hollow trumpet leaf fills with water into which the insects that light upon the leaf to feed upon its honey-like exudation often fall. The plant accumulates a great quantity of insects in this way, but seems to have no power of digesting them. The *nepenthes* is the true pitcher plant, having a leaf in the shape of a cup with a hinged lid. This lid exudes a sweet liquid, like the *sarracenia* leaf, the cup is filled by rains with water and whenever a fly or insect, drawn to the plant, falls into the cup the lid closes and prevents its escape. The secretion of the plant mingles with the waters and causes the speedy drowning and rapid decomposition of the insects. The *cephalotus* has a pitcher leaf very like that of the *nepenthes*. The *darlingtonia* is a very curious looking plant, having a large inflated hood over-arching the small mouth of the pitcher. Scientists have taken much interest in these insectivorous plants, and have studied them closely to ascertain whether they actually digest the insects they catch. There is no doubt that some of them do. Recently a son of the great naturalist, Mr. Darwin, took a large number of sundew plants and supplied half of them with nitrogenous food in the form of roast beef. Of the plants which he fed, 69 per cent more survived than of the same number which were not fed in this way; their stems weighed 41 per cent more, they excelled the starved plants in the number of their seeds by 141 per cent, and in the aggregate weight of their seeds by 279 per cent. Other scientists who have fed these plants with aphides or similar small insects have secured like results.

#### LONGFELLOW'S ANCESTRY.

PRINCETON, IOWA.

Is the John Alden in Longfellow's "Courtship of Miles Standish" his ancestor that came over in the Mayflower, and did this ancestor marry Priscilla?

READER.

*Answer.*—John Alden is understood to have been the ancestor of the poet that came over in the Mayflower. The first American Longfellow was William Longfellow, of Newbury, Mass. who came to this country from Yorkshire, England, about the year 1651. The poet was of the fifth generation in descent from this man. The maiden name of the mother of the poet was Wadsworth; she was the granddaughter of General Peleg Wadsworth, who was the fifth in descent from Christopher Wadsworth, who came from England and settled in Duxbury, Mass., about 1632. The relation of the poet to John Alden is traced as follows: John Alden married Priscilla Mullens (otherwise spelled Molines and Moleynes); their daughter married William Peabody, whose daughter

Kath married Benjamin Bartlett, whose daughter Priscilla married John Sampson, whose daughter Susanna married Deacon Peleg Wadsworth, whose son, General Peleg, was Longfellow's grandfather.

#### MOTHER SHIPTON.

GREENVILLE, Ohio.

In the Curiosity Shop for 1880, I find "Mother Shipton's Prophecy" given with date of 1485. I have since seen the same prophecy styled "a clever literary forgery of 1662." Which is correct? Who was Mother Shipton, and what is really known of her prophecies?

W. W. JONES.

*Answer.*—Mother Shipton actually lived in the time of Henry VIII. It is said that she was born at Knaresborough, and tradition declares that she was regarded as a witch, the popular belief being that she had sold her soul to the Evil One in return for the power of reading the future. But though supposed to be a dealer in the black art, she died peacefully in the village of Clifton, in Yorkshire, and in the churchyard near by her headstone bears this inscription—

"Here lies she who never lied,  
Whose skill often has been tried;  
Her prophecies shall still survive,  
And ever keep her name alive."

So many clever guesses at future events did this dame make that three English sovereigns—Henry VIII., Elizabeth, and James I.—consulted her auguries either in person or by proxy. If we may believe the records concerning her, she foretold to Henry his suppression of the monasteries, his marriage with Anne Boleyn, Wolsey's downfall and death, and the fagot fires of Smithfield. To Elizabeth she predicted the execution of Mary Queen of Scots, and foretold, it is supposed, the coming of James VI. of Scotland to the English throne in the following couplet:

"From the cold north  
Every evil shall come forth."

Of course no one knew what this couplet meant when it was uttered, the prophetess, probably, least of all. But, many years after certain courtiers, who became disgruntled, at King James' peculiar methods of distributing favors, discovered that this king was undoubtedly the evil prophesied so long before. Mother Shipton lived to a great age, and saw the "evil from the north" on the English throne, and had the pleasure of mystifying him as she had done his predecessors. About 1606 she sent forth word that—

"Before the good folk of this kingdom be undone  
Shall Highgate Hill stand in the midst of London."

Why King James should have taken this rather extravagant estimate of the possible growth of the English capital as a boding of evil can not be conjectured, but it is known

that his ever-active superstition took fright at the vision thus conjured up, and he ordered all extension of the city by the addition of buildings on the north side to cease. To-day, however, Highgate Hill is enclosed within the boundaries of the city of London, and another half-century may make it the veritable center of the metropolis. So many of Mother Shipton's prophecies have been floating about during the past two centuries that it is impossible to say how many of them may not have been invented subsequently to add to the wonder-making quality of some curious event. For instance, in the early part of this century, when a survey of London and its adjoining country was made, a scaffold and a platform were erected over the cross of St. Paul's Church, on which the topographical engineers spent several days triangulating the chief points of the survey. It was then recalled that the wonderful Mother Shipton had declared nearly four centuries previous that the time would come when men would walk, talk and eat above the gilt ball and cross of the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral, 404 feet from the ground. The fact that the identical spire, with ball and cross, which the prophetess of the fifteenth century had known, had been destroyed by fire not many years after her death, and that a second edifice had been erected and burned and yet a third built, before the fulfillment of the prediction, did not in the least interfere with the ready belief of many, that the survey of London had actually been foreseen by this wonderful woman. Concerning the prophecy quoted in the Curiosity Shop of 1880, which is the familiar one declaring that

"The world to an end shall come  
In eighteen hundred and eighty-one."

there has been much discussion, and antiquarians are now generally of the belief that this belongs to the dubious Shiptoniana, and that it was probably one of comparatively recent invention.

#### WILLIAM HUSKISSON.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.

Give a brief biography of William Huskisson.

READER.

*Answer.*—William Huskisson was born in Worcestershire, England, March 11, 1770. He was originally intended for the medical profession, and at the age of 14 went to Paris to begin scientific studies. He resided there for some years, and became imbued with the radical doctrines then in vogue there, but the horrors of the outbreak of the revolution cured him of these ideas. In 1792 he returned to England, gave up the study of medicine, and entered public life. He became Under Secretary for War in 1795, and in 1796 entered Parliament, and, with the exception of two years, 1802-1804, was a member until

his death. He attached himself to the party of Mr. Pitt, retired from office when that minister resigned in 1801, and was made secretary of the treasury on the formation of the new Pitt cabinet in 1804. Later, he became one of the band of Liberal Tories who regarded Mr. Canning as their leader. In 1823 he became president of the board of trade and treasurer of the navy, and held these offices until the death of Mr. Canning in 1827. In the Goderich Cabinet and in that of the Duke of Wellington he held the post of secretary for the colonies till May, 1829, when he chose, on a minor motion, to vote against his colleagues, and therefore retired from office. As a public man, Mr. Huskisson was chiefly known by his speeches on commercial and financial subjects, and he is regarded as the pioneer in the great free-trade movement. He would probably have returned again to the political arena in which he had so long acted, but his life was unexpectedly cut short. Sept. 15, 1830, he was present at the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, and was accidentally knocked down by the engine, and sustained such severe injuries that he died in a few hours.

#### THE RUINS OF PALENQUE.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.

Give a brief account of the ruined city of Palenque, near the borders of Yucatan.

H. WARREN.

*Answer.*—The ruins of Palenque are some remarkable remains of aboriginal architecture, to be seen on the Chacamas River in the State of Chiapas, Mexico. They consist of artificial terraces, or of truncated pyramids of cut stone, surmounted in some instances by edifices. These have figures and hieroglyphics cut upon them in relief, and appear to have been originally painted in brilliant colors. The largest structure of all, which appears to have been an ancient temple, is made of cut stone cemented with a mortar of lime and sand; is 228 feet long, 180 feet deep, and 25 feet high, and stands upon a terraced pyramid which is forty feet in height, and is faced with cut stone. The entire face of this temple was once covered with stucco and painted. There are pillars, also, which are ornamented with bas-reliefs in stucco, with borders of hieroglyphics, and the building is divided into courts, in which are a large number of stucco tablets, and one of stone representing a figure sitting cross-legged, after the manner of Buddha in many ancient Hindoo sculptures. Another building is 75x25, with solid walls on three sides, and on the north are five doorways and six piers. On several of these piers well-executed female figures are carved; there are three inner rooms, and on tablets within and without the building are engraved numerous hieroglyphics. There

are many other structures containing hieroglyphics and stucco tablets, some of which seem to have been intended for religious purposes, but most of them seem to have been family dwellings. These ruins were discovered by the Spaniards in 1750, but were not explored until about seventy years later.

#### THE REQUIEM OF MOZART.

MASON CITY, ILL.

Give an account of the circumstances under which the last composition of Mozart was written, the famous "Requiem."

MUSICIAN.

*Answer.*—The health of Mozart had been failing for some time, and his physical weakness induced a profound melancholy of mind. One day in the autumn of 1791, when he was unusually depressed, a stranger, of dignified appearance and grave manners, and dressed in black, called to see him. This gentleman told the musician that he came from a person of lofty estate, who did not wish his name to be known, who had a dear friend suffering from a mortal illness, and wished to have a requiem written to be performed to his friend's memory, when he should at last pass away. A month was to be allowed for the composition of the mass, and Mozart agreed to undertake the task. The stranger then paid him one hundred ducats and withdrew. The mystery of the visit seemed to have had very strong influence over the mind of the musician, who brooded over it for some time; he seemed to be unable to begin the work of writing the music, and yet he could think of nothing else. At last he called for writing materials, and began to compose with extraordinary rapidity. His strength, however, would not allow him to prolong this application; it brought on fainting-fits, and his illness was so severe for several days that he could not continue his work. One day he declared to his wife that the requiem which he was composing was for his own funeral service, and this impression held firm hold of his mind to the last. At the end of a month the stranger reappeared for the requiem. "I have found it impossible," said the musician, "to complete the work. It has grown in my thought far beyond my first design, and as my health is infirm, I must have another month to finish it." The stranger manifested no annoyance, but merely said that he must increase the compensation in return for the added work, laid down 50 ducats more and went away. Astonished at the whole proceeding, Mozart sent a servant to follow the stranger, and, if possible, to ascertain who he was; the man, however, lost sight of the gentleman in the crowd, and could learn nothing concerning him. Mozart was now fully convinced that the stranger was a messenger from the other world sent to warn him of his approaching end. He was at

this time engaged in revising his latest opera, "The Magic Flute," but though he was very feeble he spent some time each day working on the requiem. He was taken ill, about the middle of the month, with rheumatic fever; inflammation of the lungs followed, he sank rapidly, and died a day or two before the appointed time when the requiem, which was still unfinished, was to be called for. Madame Mozart was very anxious about this piece of music, as she was unable to return the money which had been paid for it. She, therefore, had it completed by one of the musician's pupils, who used the rough notes that Mozart had left and added several passages taken from the great composer's other works. When the stranger called for the work it was learned that he was a messenger from Count Walsegg, a nobleman of Vienna. It is stated by some biographers of the musician that this requiem was actually performed at his funeral, while others state that this is an error.

#### BIBLE BLUNDERS.

CHEBANSE, ILL.

I have lately seen, under the title of "Bible Blunders," a list, giving dates of publication, of volumes known as the Breeches Bible, Bug Bible, etc. Please explain these.

A. METZGER.

*Answer.*—The volumes referred to were certain editions of the Bible which received their peculiar names because of peculiarities of translation in them or errors in typography. For instance, the Breeches Bible, which was printed in 1560, was so called because the third verse of the seventh chapter of Genesis was rendered "They sewed figge-leaves together and made themselves breeches." This translation was the work of English Protestant refugees in Geneva, and so is most generally known as the Geneva Bible. The Bug Bible was a translation bearing date 1537, and so called from its rendering of Psalm xci, 5: "Thou shalt not be afraid of any bugs by night." The Place-Maker's Bible was so called because of a remarkable typographical error occurring in Matt. v, 9: "Blessed are the Place-Makers." It was a second edition of the Geneva Bible, printed about 1562. The Treacle Bible was the name given to a translation issued in 1568, which rendered Jeremiah viii, 22: "Is there no treacle in Gilead?" [Students, however, say that the word "balm" is given as "treacle," in no less than four other early editions of the English Bible.] The Rosin Bible is a name which has been given to the English Douay Bible, the authorized translation of the Roman Catholic Church, which rendered the text last quoted as "Is there no rosin in Gilead?" This version was issued early in 1609. The Wicked Bible was an edition by the King James version, printed in 1632, by Baker & Lucas, London, so named because the word *not* was left out of

the seventh commandment. The printers were fined £500, and the whole edition was ordered to be burned. The Vinegar Bible was an edition printed in 1717, by John Basket, an Oxford printer, and issued from the Clarendon Press. It was a handsome edition, but had a number of gross errors. The heading of the twentieth chapter of Luke was given as "The Parable of the Vinegar" (instead of Vineyard), which gave the edition its name. The Ears to Ear Bible was an edition printed about 1815, which gave Matt. ii., 15. "He that hath ears to ear, etc." The "to remain" Bible was an edition published in Cambridge, England, in 1805. The editor wrote on the margin of a proof the words "to remain," respecting a comma which the printer thought should be omitted. The latter stupidly inserted the words in the passage in question, so that it was made it read—Galatians iv., 29—"persecuted him that was born after the spirit to remain even so it is now."

#### BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP SEA.

HYDE PARK, Ill.

I have often heard the phrase "between the devil and the deep sea." Where did it originate?

READER.

*Answer.*—The meaning of the phrase is apparent, to be between dangers of equal magnitude—but the real origin of the phrase is not easily found. The first use of the expression that we can find in literature is in a work printed in London in 1637, entitled, "Expedition with Mackay's Regiment," by Colonel Mouroe. This regiment was with the army of Gustavus Adolphus, and was engaged in battle with the Austrians. The Swedish gunners did not elevate their guns properly, so their shot fell into the ranks of their allies. The Scottish regiment, therefore, with the enemy on one side, and on the other the blundering gunners of the Swedes, was, says the historian, "between the devil and the deep sea." But the phrase was probably an old one at that time, and may even go back to the time of the Hebrew exodus, when the Israelites had the Red Sea in front and Pharaoh and his army behind them.

#### THE MAN WITH THE SILVER ARM.

CHICAGO.

Who was known in the pioneer history of America as "the man with the silver arm," and why?

R. L. SMITH.

*Answer.*—We know of but one instance when this phrase was used and that was concerning Don Melchor de la Vega, the Count of Monclova, and Spanish Viceroy of Mexico in the latter part of the seventeenth century. He was sent out to take charge of New Castile in 1686. He was called "the man with the silver arm" for the simple and literal reason that, having lost his right arm in battle, he supplied its place with an arm of silver. He founded the town of Monclova, and began the con-

struction at his own expense of the aqueduct which brings the water from Chapultepec to Solto del Agua along the ancient route. In 1689 the Spanish government transferred him to the control of the Peruvian provinces.

#### PINCHBACK IN LOUISIANA.

CINCINNATI, Ohio.

Did the State of Louisiana ever elect a colored man named Pinchback for Governor? If so, when and by what political party was he chosen? When did Louisiana ever go Republican?

READER.

*Answer.*—Immediately after the reconstructed constitution of Louisiana was adopted in April, 1868, Henry C. Warmoth, a Republican, was elected Governor, and a Legislature Republican in both branches was chosen. In November, 1871, the Lieutenant Governor, Dunn, died, and Governor Warmoth convened the Legislature in special session to elect his successor. P. B. S. Pinchback, a member of the State Senate, was elected to fill out the term of the office, receiving 18 votes against 16 for the opposing candidate. During the turbulent session of the Legislature which met soon after, Pinchback headed a faction of the Republican party which was opposed to Governor Warmoth. This faction attempted to secure for Pinchback the nomination for Governor, but was obliged to content itself with that for Congressman-at-large. After the election in November, Governor Warmoth called an extra session of the Legislature to meet Dec. 9, to consider the matter of the disputed returns. Before this could convene Pinchback secured an order from Judge Durell, of the Federal Circuit Court, restraining Warmoth from attempting to take any part in the organization of either house of the Legislature. The settlement of election matters was greatly complicated by the fact that there were two returning boards, one appointed by the Governor under a new law adopted at the last session of the Legislature, and known as the Warmoth Board, the other selected by one of its members under the law which had been hitherto in force, and known as the Lynch Board. These boards gave certificates to opposing candidates, and two Assemblies, therefore, were declared elected. The members who had received certificates from the Warmoth Board met Dec. 7; those holding certificates from the Lynch board met December 9; each claimed to be the lawful legislature. Lieutenant-Governor Pinchback assumed the office of Governor, though forbidden to do so by an order from Judge Elmore, obtained by Warmoth. He was recognized, however, by the government at Washington, as the "lawful executive of Louisiana." The conflict between the McEnery and Kellogg governments soon followed, both of these men taking the oath of office as Governor January 14, 1873. After some investigation, Governor Kellogg was

recognized by the United States government. Pinchback was elected to the United States Senate by the Kellogg Legislature. He had also received a certificate of election as Representative to Congress from the Lynch Board. He was not able to obtain either seat, though his contest for a place in the Senate lasted three years. Pinchback refused to act with the Republican party in Louisiana in 1877, but in 1882 he was made surveyor of the port of New Orleans by President Arthur. Except in the elections of Warmoth and Kellogg, the Republicans have never elected a State ticket in Louisiana.

#### THE RABBIT PEST.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.

Give a history of the rabbit pest of New Zealand. What plans have been tried for its suppression?

J. H. D.

*Answer.*—Some twenty years ago, the colonists of Australia and New Zealand, introduced hares and rabbits, which had previously been unknown in these countries, that they might enjoy the sport of hunting them, to which they had been accustomed in Great Britain. The soil and climate were found to be peculiarly adapted to the animals, which, having no natural enemies to keep down their numbers, soon became so numerous as to interfere with farming operations. They consumed the herbage up to the very doors of the farmhouses, destroyed orchards and vegetable gardens, caused the abandonment of thousands of acres of valuable land, turning pastures into deserts by eating the grass down to the roots, driving the sheep farmers and their herds from vast sections of the country. Wealthy proprietors spent enormous sums in the vain effort to exterminate the vermin. Millions of the little animals were destroyed by shooting, trapping, hunting with ferrets, and poisoning with arsenic, strychnia and phosphorus, but all this seemed to check in a very slight degree their multiplication. Wire fences were at first tried to keep the animals within bounds, but they burrowed under those without the slightest difficulty. The parliament of New South Wales offered a bonus of sixpence for every rabbit killed, and under this offer the payments amounted, in 1888, to £500,000. The same government also offered, in 1888, a reward of £25,000 to any person who could invent an effective process for the extermination of rabbits, which should not be injurious in its operation to horses, sheep, or other domestic animals. The process, it was stipulated, must be one previously unknown in the colony, and the owner was required to demonstrate its efficacy at his own expense, and would be allowed to take the prize only after his remedy had been successfully tried for one year. M. Pasteur, the famous French scientist, proposed to try a method which he had previously used

with some success in France. This was to produce among the animals an epidemic of chicken-cholera, a disease which is very infectious and fatal to rabbits, though harmless to other animals, except poultry. During 1888 a party of scientists went out to Australia to carry out the plan. Their scheme was to feed the rabbits with substances containing the microbes of the disease, after which the infection would spread among them spontaneously. Whether this plan is likely to prove effective against the animals can not be yet asserted. There is no doubt that it has succeeded in killing many thousands of the rabbits, but letters from Australia say that all this destruction has not yet produced any perceptible decrease in their enormous numbers.

#### TORRENS' LAND SYSTEM.

PALMYRA, Wis.

Explain the Torrens' system of land transfer, said to be used in Australia and some of the British provinces of North America.

C. F. SHERMAN.

*Answer.*—This plan of land transfer was drawn up by Sir Robert Torrens, and by him put in operation in Australia. It is now used in all the Australian provinces, in Tasmania and New Zealand, and also in British Columbia and Ontario. Its object is to make the transfer of land as simple as that of bank stock, and render the title of the holder thereof as free from danger or difficulty as ordinarily the title of the holder of bank stock is to the shares he holds. A land registry is established under the control of an officer known as the master of titles, by whom all land transactions are registered. A title may be registered as absolute or possessory; if absolute, the title must be approved by the master of titles before the ownership can be registered in fee simple. The first registration of a person as owner with absolute title will vest in that person an estate in fee simple in the land, subject to any incumbrances that may be entered on the register. If a possessory title is required, the applicant is registered as owner on giving such evidence of title as may be prescribed. The registration of any person as first owner, with a possessory title only, will not interfere with the enforcement of any estate, right, or interest adverse to the title that may then exist or arise at a later date. Should it appear to the master of titles that an absolute title to any land can only be held for a limited period or subject to reservations, he may except from the effect of registration any estate, right, or interest arising before a specified date or arising under a special instrument or otherwise particularly described in the register. A title granted under such conditions is to be called a qualified title. The master of titles must give to the first registered owner a "land certificate," and this certificate must say whether the title of the owner

is "absolute," "qualified," or "possessionary." An insurance fund is created to indemnify persons who may suffer loss through misdescription, omission, or other error in any certificate of title, or in any entry on the register. This fund is provided by laying a tax of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1 per cent on the value of the land on the first certificate of title being granted, in addition to registration fees. The master of titles settles all questions as to the liability of the fund for compensation.

## TABLE OF POPULATION.

LAKE WEIR, Fla.

What was the population of the United States, by States, according to the censuses of 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880? C. H. VOORHEES.

*Answer.*—The following table gives the information desired:

STATES.	1850.	1860.	1870.	1880.
Alabama .....	771,623	964,201	996,922	1,262,585
Arkansas .....	209,897	435,450	484,471	822,625
California .....	92,597	379,994	560,247	864,694
Colorado .....	.....	34,277	39,864	194,327
Connecticut ..	370,792	460,147	537,454	622,700
Delaware .....	91,532	112,216	125,015	146,608
Florida .....	87,445	141,424	187,748	269,493
Georgia .....	906,185	1,057,286	1,184,109	1,542,180
Illinois .....	851,477	1,711,957	2,539,891	3,077,871
Indiana .....	988,416	1,350,428	1,680,637	1,978,301
Iowa .....	192,214	674,918	1,194,020	1,624,615
Kansas .....	.....	107,206	364,399	996,096
Kentucky .....	882,405	1,156,684	1,321,010	1,648,690
Louisiana .....	517,762	708,002	732,915	939,946
Maine .....	583,169	628,279	626,915	648,936
Maryland .....	583,034	687,049	780,894	934,943
Massachusetts ..	994,514	1,231,666	1,457,351	1,783,085
Michigan .....	397,654	749,113	1,184,059	1,636,937
Minnesota .....	6,077	172,023	439,706	780,773
Mississippi .....	6,526	791,305	927,922	1,131,697
Missouri .....	682,044	1,182,012	1,721,295	2,168,380
Nebraska .....	.....	28,841	122,993	452,402
Nevada .....	.....	6,857	42,491	62,266
N. Hampshire ..	317,976	326,073	318,300	346,991
New Jersey .....	489,555	672,085	906,096	1,131,116
New York .....	3,097,394	3,880,735	4,382,759	5,082,871
North Carolina ..	869,039	692,622	1,071,361	1,399,750
Ohio .....	1,980,329	2,339,511	2,665,262	3,198,062
Oregon .....	13,294	52,465	90,233	174,768
Pennsylvania .....	2,311,786	2,906,215	3,521,951	4,282,891
Rhode Island ..	147,545	174,620	217,353	276,531
South Carolina ..	668,507	703,708	705,606	995,577
Tennessee .....	1,002,717	1,109,801	1,258,520	1,542,359
Texas .....	212,592	604,215	818,579	1,591,749
Vermont .....	314,120	315,098	330,551	332,286
Virginia .....	1,421,661	1,596,318	1,225,163	1,512,565
West Virginia ..	.....	.....	442,014	618,457
Wisconsin .....	83,831	775,881	1,054,670	1,315,497

## GOLDSMITH'S "DESERTED VILLAGE."

CHICAGO.

Was not the "Auburn" of Goldsmith's "Deserted Village" an actual place? If so, is it known where it was and what its true name was?

STUDENT.

*Answer.*—Poets are of course licensed to take great liberties with existing facts and conditions, and to transport buildings and towns from one place to another, as did the genii of the Arabian Nights. The situation of the village of Goldsmith's poem has been much discussed by critics, but it is now generally conceded that its location and description agree most closely with the village of Lissoy in the county of Westmeath, near Athlone, Ireland, a hamlet which has been for nearly a century known as Auburn. There is another place

named Auburn (sometimes spelled Albourn) in Wiltshire, near Marlborough, England, which has been supposed to be the village referred to, but the scenery does not warrant this belief. But the story of the "Deserted Village" does not seem to belong with its scene. Mrs. S. C. Hall says, after having visited Lissoy: "The poem bears ample evidence that, although some of the scenes depicted there had been stamped upon his memory, the story must either be assigned to some other locality, or traced entirely to the creative faculty of the poet." Aud Macaulay's criticism is: "The village in its happy days is a true English village. The village in its decay is an Irish village. The felicity and misery which Goldsmith has brought close together belong to two different countries and to two different stages in the progress of society. He had assuredly never seen in his native island such a rural paradise, such a seat of plenty, content and tranquility as his "Auburn." He had assuredly never seen in England the inhabitants of such a paradise turned out of their homes in one day, and forced to emigrate in a body to America. The hamlet he had probably seen in Kent; the ejection he had probably seen in Munster; but, by joining the two, he has produced something which never was and never will be seen in any part of the world." Goldsmith was born in County Longford, Ireland, and was very familiar with the scenery of his native island. His father was a clergyman of the Established Church, and is thought to have been the original of the beautiful character of the "village parson" in the famous poem.

## SIR BOYLE ROOKE.

ROMEO, Mich.

Give a sketch of the life of Sir Boyle Roche, with some account of his peculiarities as a speaker. S. MCMURDO.

*Answer.*—Though not sufficiently renowned to be allowed a place in biographical dictionaries or encyclopedias, the name of Sir Boyle Roche is far more familiar to general readers than many that are so honored. His droll unconscious wit, and his facility in perpetrating "Irish bulls" ensured for him wider and more lasting fame than the most brilliant eloquence could have done. He was a native of Sligo County, Ireland, where he was born about the middle of the eighteenth century. He entered the army when a young man, and served with distinction in the British army in America during the struggle of the States for independence. On his return he resigned his commission in the army, and entered political life. He was elected to the Irish Parliament, where he was a great favorite; since when he essayed to take part in a debate, no matter how bitter and rancorous it had been, it was sure to end in shouts of laughter on both sides. As many apocry-

phal anecdotes are told of Sir Boyle Roche as of that ancient jester, Joe Miller. But it was unquestionable he who furnished literature with its most perfect illustration of a "mixed metaphor" in the remark: "Mr. Speaker, I smell a rat; I see him floating in the air; but mark me, sir, I will nip him in the bud." When the habeas corpus suspension bill was under discussion, Sir Boyle Roche advocated the measure in his usual ardent fashion, and gave testimony to his single-minded patriotism by the declaration that he "would gladly sacrifice not only a part of the constitution but the whole of it, to preserve the remainder." He was not a radical, however, and did not approve of the laxity of manners that attended the prevalence of radical principles. "The progress of the times is such," he declared, "that little children who can neither walk nor talk may be seen running about the streets, cursing their Maker." But except in his bulls, Sir Boyle Roche was not rash enough to attempt the impossible. A recalcitrant member having made his escape from the rear of the house while the sergeant-at-arms was endeavoring to stop him in front, a criticism on the mistaken movement of that officer brought from Roche the indignant inquiry whether the sergeant-at-arms could be, like a bird, in two places at once. He expressed the familiar fact that peril is lessened by a dauntless courage, by saying, "The best way to avoid danger is to meet it plump." But for all his tendency to blundering speech he was capable of stinging satire. When Curran loftily declared, "I am the guardian of my own honor," Roche said, "Faith, I wish the gentleman joy of his sincere appointment!" Sir Boyle Roche died in 1807.

#### POSTHUMOUS HONORS TO WASHINGTON.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.

Some one has said that the flag of England were raised at half-mast when George Washington died; is it a fact? Would the flag of our Nation be put at half-mast when Queen Victoria dies?

O. E. K.

*Answer.*—There were several tributes of respect offered by foreign nations to Washington at the time of his death. On hearing of the sad event Lord Bridport, in command of a fleet of about sixty sail at Torbay, ordered every ship to lower her flag to a half-mast. Possibly other British commanders may have offered similar tokens of respect. This is the only one of which we find a record made. When Napoleon Bonaparte, then First Consul of France, heard of the death of Washington he issued an announcement to the army and ordered black crepe to be suspended from all the flags and standards in the French service for ten days. A funeral oration was also pronounced before the First Consul and civil authorities. That in the event of the death of Queen Victoria public ceremonies would be held in this coun-

try is very probable. 'She is personally held in high regard by the majority of the American people, has been a warm friend to our nation, and we have thousands of citizens who were born under her dominion.

#### AUSTERLITZ.

PENFIELD, Ill.

Give an account of the battle of Austerlitz, when and between whom fought, and what were the casualties?

A. M. G.

*Answer.*—The battle of Austerlitz was fought Dec. 2, 1805, near the little town of the same name, in Moravia, between the French under Napoleon and the united Austrian and Russian armies. The aggressive movements of Napoleon against the peace of the European States caused the formation of a league of other powers to hold him in check. This league is known in history as "The Third Coalition." In April, 1805, a treaty was signed between Russia and Great Britain. The immediate objects of the league were to abolish the French rule in Italy, Holland, Switzerland and Hanover; and to unite Holland and Belgium under the house of Orange, so as to form a permanent barrier against France. Gustavus, of Sweden, eagerly joined the coalition; so did the King of Naples, then threatened with a French invasion; and Austria, terrified for the safety of her Italian possessions, became a member of the league. But, as far as effective operations were concerned, the coalition consisted only of Austria and Russia, for neither Sweden nor Naples were able to make any movements on a large scale, and Great Britain only provided help in the form of money and the aid of her fleet. The campaign was opened during August by the occupation of Bavaria by the Austrians. In October this advance army of the Austrians was surrounded at Ulm and forced to surrender. Napoleon then marched upon Vienna and took possession of the city, then marched into Bohemia, and arranged his large forces in a semi-circle having its center near the town of Brunn. The Austrian and Russian forces gathered near Olmutz, and determined to give battle on the ground which Napoleon had chosen. Toward this place the troops of Alexander and Francis marched in five parallel columns. The movements of the allies were not skillfully conducted, and the leaders were mistaken as to the strength of the French army. Napoleon's skillful tactics having been applied to make his forces seem less in number than they really were. He had about 80,000 men, while the allied armies numbered 84,000, including 16,000 cavalry. The battle commenced at 7 o'clock in the morning between the French and the Russian advance. The latter chose their position badly, and Napoleon perceiving their error, ordered a sudden charge and broke the Russian line. The struggle was a hot one, but by 1 o'clock the cen-

ter division of the allied forces was utterly destroyed or driven from the field, and though the two wings of the army still fought bravely, they were separated and could not act together. The left wing being overcome, and forced backward, the men endeavored to save themselves by crossing a frozen lake, but Napoleon ordered his artillery to fire upon the ice, which was broken up and several thousands of the soldiers were engulfed in the water. Resistance was no longer possible and the allied generals ordered a retreat, which was executed with great courage and firmness, but with immense losses from the fire of the French guns. As to casualties, the historian Alison gives the loss of the allies at 30,000 in killed, wounded and prisoners; that of the French 12,000. According to Lanfrey, the allies lost 27,000 men, the French some 8,500. Napoleon's bulletin, sent to Paris after the battle, that there had been but 800 of the French killed and 1,500 wounded, was unquestionably a wrong estimate, made with deliberate intent to deceive. The victory was a decisive one for the French. The terms of the armistice which followed were dictated by Napoleon, and the coalition was utterly destroyed. William Pitt, the great English statesman, had planned this alliance, and its total defeat so overcame him that it was thought to have hastened his death, which occurred a few months later. This battle virtually made Napoleon master, for the time, of Central Europe.

#### CASTOR BEANS.

LAKE WEIR, Fla.

Tell something about castor beans, how they are raised and prepared for market. READER.

*Answer.*—The castor bean is cultivated successfully as a field crop in sections south of the 39th degree, and also grows vigorously north of this parallel. It thrives best in a rich mellow soil. It can be cultivated as easily as corn. It grows to a height of five or six feet, and bears twenty to thirty bushels per acre. When they are ripe the beans are taken from the pods, bruised, and subjected to a great pressure, by which they yield nearly a gallon to the bushel of castor oil. The bean when fully mature, can be shelled and taken to market without any further preparation. Castor beans are raised extensively in Southern Illinois, an important manufactory of their oil being situated in St. Louis.

#### DAVID EVERETT.

TIPTON, Iowa.

Who was the author of that favorite juvenile recitation of some time ago beginning—

"You'd scarce expect one of my age  
To speak in public on the stage."

When did he live, and did he write anything else? R. M. JONES.

*Answer.*—These famous old lines were written by a journalist of the early part of the century. His name was David Everett. He was a native of Princeton, Mass., where he was born

in 1770, and he graduated at Dartmouth College in 1795. It was while teaching school, just after leaving college, that he wrote the recitation referred to. He subsequently studied law, and practiced for a time, enlivening the dull study of briefs by frequent side excursions into the flowery paths of literature. He wrote much, both of prose and poetry, and in 1800 produced a tragedy, which was acted in Boston. About 1807 he became an editor of a Boston paper, and continued employed in newspaper work most of the time until his death in 1813.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON AND HIS WIFE.

CHICAGO.

Was there ever any domestic trouble between George Washington and his wife; and is it true that she returned to her room after his burial, and never left it until the time of her death, a period of eighteen months; and were her mental faculties sound at the time of her death? J. E. B.

*Answer.*—In the latter part of Mrs. Washington's life, after her husband's death, she destroyed all the letters she had ever written to him, or he ever wrote to her. All the written confidences of the pair, and their interchanges of thought and affection, were thus lost to the historian. To the vulgar conceptions of modern times this action seemed to show that there was something discreditable in the domestic relations of the couple, but there is not the slightest foundation for this assumption. All the references to one another, made by either in letters to members of their family or mutual friends, breathe the spirit of true, loyal affection, and there is testimony without limit that in their actions both were self-controlled, considerate and kind. The act of destroying the letters is perfectly in harmony with the modest reticence, the retiring self-respect, that characterized both General and Lady Washington. Their letters of affection had been written each for the other's eye alone, and it was not strange that the good woman should be unwilling to leave these treasures to be handed over to the common possession of the curiosity-seeking public. Edward Everett Hale has said on this subject: "Some enthusiast at Mt. Vernon manufactured the somewhat somber story that after George Washington's death Mrs. Washington, or Lady Washington as the fond instinct of the people generally called her, never left her room, and this statement has strayed into print. She is represented as sitting and brooding over the death of her hero, and looking forward to the moment when she might join him in a better world. Fortunately for her reputation for good sense and a true piety some memorandum books, which she evidently thought too trivial to destroy, preserved ample material for disproving this absurdity." In these books she made entry of house-keeping duties accomplished from day to day, and notes how she superintended the preparing of the



supply of smoked meats for the plantation, how with her own hands she cut out the clothing of the slaves, and so on. These seem to show that she did not allow any impulse of brooding grief to draw her aside from her duties to others. Letters of her daughter and others also testify that after the death of her husband, Lady Washington kept up the hospitality of the Mt. Vernon home and received its many visitors with the appearance of much of her old vigor. But in her very latest years Mrs. Washington did fall into a gentle melancholy which lasted until she died in 1802. The statement that the room in which General Washington died was shut up just as he left it, and that, in the presence of others at least, she never entered it again, is perhaps true. The custom of keeping a room closed for two years after death has occurred in it is a very common one in the Southern States.

## CHOOSING A PRESIDENT.

SHEDD'S, Ore.

Please state just what the Constitution means when it says: "In choosing the President the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote. \* \* \* A majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice."

A. C. G.

*Answer.*—The Constitution means, in the passage quoted, just *what* it says. The entire document is written in clear, terse and simple English, and no person having an intelligent comprehension of the language can fail to understand it. The passage occurs in the eleventh amendment to the Constitution, which regulates the manner of electing the President and Vice President, and has direct reference to the contingency when the choice of such officers shall fall to the House of Representatives. If no one of the Presidential candidates has a majority of the entire number of electors from all the States, from the three candidates having the most electoral votes, the House of Representatives must choose a President by ballot. This choice must be made immediately, also, that there may be no opportunity for the bargaining or purchase of votes among the members beforehand. The vote for the choice must be taken by States, the Representatives from each State having one vote. That is, the entire number of Representatives from Alabama must vote together for the candidate of their preference; their combined vote is counted as one and as the vote of the State. In like manner, all the votes of the other States are taken. The Constitution then goes on to say that "a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the States, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice." That is, to make the requisite number of Representatives to act in this manner of electing a President, members from two-thirds of the

States at least must be present, but a majority of this number is not sufficient for a choice, unless it is also a majority of all the States of the Union. In 1824 this contingency occurred. No one of the four candidates received a majority of the electoral votes, but by ballot the second on the list, John Q. Adams, was elected.

## WILLIAM KNOX.

YANKTON, S. D.

Give a short history of William Knox, author of the poem "Oh, Why Should the Spirit of Mortal Be Proud?"

M. M. H.

*Answer.*—William Knox was born in Roxburgh, Scotland, in 1789. Except through the mention made of him in the journals of Sir Walter Scott very little is known of the circumstances of his life. His father was a respectable yeoman, but the young man, being early left his own master, fell into dissipated habits. His poetical talent soon showed itself and he adopted a pensive strain of writing which was really very excellent of its kind. Sir Walter Scott met him and tried to befriend him, inviting him to Abbotsford, but the young man was not accustomed to cultivated society and never made but one brief visit. Scott says of him: "I tried to help him but there were temptations he could never resist. He scrambled on, writing for the booksellers and the magazines, and living like the Otways, Savages, and Chattertons of former days, though I do not know that he was in actual want. His connection with me terminated in begging a subscription or a guinea now and then. His last works were spiritual hymns, which he wrote very well." His published works were: "The Lonely Hearth and other Poems," 1818; *Mariomne, or the Widower's Daughter, a Christmas Tale*, and "Songs of Israel," 1824; "The Harp of Zion," 1825. The poem "Oh, Why Should the Spirit of Mortal Be Proud?" appeared in the volume "Songs of Israel." Knox died Nov. 12, 1825, at Edinburgh.

## THE BASHI-BAZOUKS.

CHICAGO.

What and where are the people called Bashi-Bazouks?

G. GRAHAM.

*Answer.*—The Bashi-Bazouks are the irregular troops in the Turkish army. Very few of them are Europeans; they are mostly Asiatics from some of the different provinces under the Sultan's rule in Asia Minor. They are wild, turbulent men, ready to fight with great ferocity, but even more ready to plunder whenever they can get opportunity to do so. Wherever the Turkish army was stationed during the Turco-Russian war of 1854, it was said that the adjoining villages were in more terror of Bashi-Bazouks than of the enemy. In the war of 1876-77 a corps of Bashi-Bazouks attacked

over 1,000 defenseless Bulgarians who had taken refuge in a church in the town of Batak and slaughtered them all in cold blood.

#### GROWTH OF A PLANT.

CHICAGO.

How do seeds germinate in the earth, and what properties in the earth cause them to grow?

N. B.

*Answer.*—The conditions of the germination of seeds are three—warmth, moisture, and darkness. Even when seeds are not covered by the earth, if the above three conditions are given, they will sprout—that is, germinate, and begin the process of growth. Some seeds can be made to grow even in the light, if they are kept warm and moist. Light is essential to the later stages of the growth of a plant, to the development of its different parts, but is detrimental to the first stage, that of germination. That the conditions of growth are mechanical, rather than chemical, seems to be shown by the fact that seeds of the same plant will grow in soil having very different chemical properties, if the conditions of warmth, moisture and darkness are supplied. The growth of all plants is, in its essential analysis, the same thing, simply the reproduction of cells. If a thin slice be made of the stem of a rapidly growing plant, and this be laid in water and examined under a microscope, it will be found to be made up of numerous cavities separated by delicate partitions. These little cavities are cells. Under the microscope these little cells are seen each one to grow in size, then burst and each form two or more smaller, cells. These again expand and form a greater number of cells. Sometimes the division of the cells takes place only in one direction. Sometimes it acts on all sides. New cells sometimes grow on the surface of the old cells, and if the new cells remain together as formed, cell aggregates, called tissues, are produced, of which tissues the various organs of the higher plants are built up. All vegetable growth is carried on by this plan, which is the model also for all animal growth and life.

#### STANLEY AND THE MISSIONARIES.

ROMEO, Mich.

Give the particulars of the quarrel which Henry M. Stanley is said to have had with the missionaries on the Congo, in his late exploring expedition, which caused him to speak very harshly of missionaries as a class. Has Stanley ever done anything for the cause of Christian missions?

READERS.

*Answer.*—We presume that reference is here made to the difficulty between Stanley and the American Baptist Mission at Leopoldville, in the summer of 1887, the circumstances of which as given in the explorer's letters and reports from others of the expedition were, briefly, as follows: April 21, 1887, Mr. Stanley arrived at Leopoldville on the Congo, with his expedition, on the way to the equatorial province. The explorer had with him over

seven hundred natives, and had reached this point by the caravan route around the falls, expecting to take steamers here and go on up the river. Three vessels that had been promised him by the state were ready, but as these did not furnish all the means of transportation which his force required he endeavored to hire two mission steamers that were there. Indeed, before his arrival at Leopoldville he had sent couriers to ask for the use of these steamers, to prevent delay. Any hindrance at that point would cause disorder and distress, since the failure of the crops in the district surrounding Leopoldville during the previous year had caused great shortage of food in that vicinity. It was imperatively necessary that the expedition should go on immediately to districts where food could be more easily obtained. In reply to Mr. Stanley's request one of the mission steamers, that belonging to the English Baptist Mission, was readily promised for his use; the other, owned by a branch of the American Baptist Mission—known as the Livingstone Inland Mission—was refused, on the plea that the vessel was to be repainted. Mr. Stanley, not accustomed to be thwarted in this way, was very indignant. He sent two of his officers to expostulate with Mr. Billington, the minister in charge of the Livingstone Mission, and convince him that the work of moving forward the expedition was of more importance than having a new coat of paint put on the steamer. The officers said that they urged the matter for an hour or more without result; that Mr. Billington declared that he had consulted the Bible and had found therein a command not to assist the expedition. On the following morning the two officers went to try a third appeal to Mr. Billington, who only replied that he had "prayerfully wrestled even unto the third watch," on the subject, and was more than ever convinced that he was acting "wisely and well" in refusing the use of the steamer. Meanwhile Mr. Stanley had seen the governor of the district, M. Liebrecht, and urged that he should issue a formal requisition for the use of the steamer. Before the governor had decided to take such positive action word was brought to Mr. Stanley that Mr. Billington had secretly abstracted the valves and pistons of the steamer's engines for the purpose of hiding them. The explorer then thought it was time to take the law into his own hands, and sent a company of soldiers to demand the immediate surrender of the steamer and its belongings from Mr. Billington, and should the missionary further refuse to yield it, to take forcible possession of the boat. This proceeding was a high-handed one, to be sure, but Mr. Stanley believed it to be necessary. The governor, however, thought it best

to interfere at this point, and ordered a state guard to take charge of the steamer, securing the withdrawal of Mr. Stanley's soldiers on a pledge that nothing should be withdrawn or injured in the steamer's machinery. M. Liebricht then went in person to the missionaries, and insisted, that owing to the peculiar circumstances the use of the steamer should be permitted for the time desired. After a discussion of two days the vessel was at last granted to the expedition at a charge of \$500 a month. Mr. Stanley was very indignant over this circumstance, especially because he had more than once befriended the Livingstone Inland Mission in previous years. In 1881, two of their missionaries having been burned out came, to him for help, and he furnished them with a liberal allowance from his stores. In 1883, when one of these missionaries had tried in vain to secure permission from the natives to locate a station near Stanley Pool, Stanley secured for him a site near Leopoldville, and the following year gave to the same mission a site for a branch station at the equator. These facts caused him to remark in a letter concerning the steamer: "What ungrateful people some of these missionaries are! Faith they may have in superabundance—in hope they no doubt live cheerfully; but of charity I do not find the slightest trace." This circumstance has given rise to a charge really quite unjust, that Mr. Stanley is hostile to the missionaries in Africa. The warm praise given by the explorer to Mr. Mackay and his fellow missionaries in Uganda should thoroughly disprove this. What Mr. Stanley has done directly and personally for missions in Africa, we can not say, but it must be admitted that his work in opening the way for them into the dark continent has been of the greatest possible value to the mission cause.

#### QUEEN BRUNEHAUT.

SULPHUR GROVE, Ohio.

Will the Curiosity Shop favor us with some account of Queen Brunehaut, wife of Sigebert, and of her execution?  
J. M. SHULL.

*Answer.*—Queen Brunehaut, or Brunechild, was a famous character of the early part of the middle ages. Sigebert was the eldest son of Clothar I, King of the Franks, and on the death of the latter in 561 A. D., he became ruler of Austrasia, one of the divisions of the Frankish Kingdom. The death of one of Clothar's sons a few years afterward resulted in the definite formation of the three Frankish Kingdoms of Austrasia, Neustria, and Burgundy. The rivalries of the two former of these caused murders and petty wars that lasted for over a century, Burgundy during the time, as the weakest power, siding sometimes with the one, and sometimes with the other, of the stronger kingdoms. Two principal actors in this

strife were the haughty, highborn Brunehaut, wife of Sigebert, the Austrasian king, and Fredegonda, first the mistress and then the wife of Chilperic, Sigebert's brother, the king of Neustria. Brunehaut was the youngest daughter of Athanagild, the king of the Visigoths of Spain. Fredegonda was the daughter of poor peasants in Picardy. Queen Audovera, the first wife of Chilperic, was attracted by the pretty peasant girl, and gave her a place among the maids at court. The result of this was that Fredegonda so fascinated the king, that under her influence Queen Audovera was repudiated on some trivial pretext and shut up in a convent. King Chilperic, however, did not keep his promise to marry Fredegonda immediately. He wanted a fortune first, and was led by advisers to secure the hand of Galsuinthe, the elder sister of Brunehaut, who brought him a large dowry. Galsuinthe naturally became very jealous of the favor shown by the king to Fredegonda, and being unable to procure the removal of this favorite from court, declared her determination to return to her father, and demanded the restoration of her dowry. This the King angrily refused, and a few days later Queen Galsuinthe was found dead in her bed. Soon after this, Chilperic espoused Fredegonda. From this time on an undying hatred existed between Fredegonda and Queen Brunehaut. It was the influence of the latter which brought about a war between the Austrasians and the Neustrians, in which the Austrasians were at first victorious. In 575, after having defeated the Neustrians in a hard-fought battle, Sigebert was assassinated in his tent by two menials, hired by Fredegonda. His army having no leader was forced to disband, and his widow fell into Chilperic's hands and was placed in confinement at Rouen. Merovee, the son of Chilperic by his first wife, here saw Queen Brunehaut, was attracted by her beauty and her misfortunes, and in due time married her. Fredegonda now determined to destroy not only Brunehaut but Merovee also. Some years after this, the Austrasians, having again raised a formidable army, demanded the restoration of their queen. She was given up, but Fredegonda had Merovee seized and confined in a monastery, where he soon after died, whether by violence or not is not known. In 584 Fredegonda had Chilperic put out of the way by hired assassins. The two queens, therefore, now ruled the whole Frankish kingdom, for Brunehaut had charge of her two grandsons, the kings of Austrasia and Burgundy, and Fredegonda governed Neustria for her only son, the youthful Clothar I. Notwithstanding her many atrocious crimes, the fates allowed Fredegonda to die peacefully in her bed in 598. After this,

Bruneau seized upon a large part of the territory of Neustria. Her object was to establish a solid monarchy in her kingdom, and to hold in check the growing power of the feudal lords. This desired to her overthrow, for the Austrasian nobles leagued against her, and induced the army to desert her, when, on the occasion of an invasion of the Neustrians, she needed it most. So, after thirty-nine years of warfare, Bruneau was, when eighty years of age, taken captive by her mortal enemy, Clothar II. The old queen was subjected to shameful indignities, and was tied by her hair, one foot and one arm, to the tail of a wild horse and thus dashed to pieces. It is said of these two queens that they were alike famous for their beauty, their audacity and their crimes. Bruneau was believed to have incited more than once the death of those who opposed her. But this queen carried, amid her wrong-doing—which was the rule of the barbarous time—a stamp of courage, frankness and intelligence which placed her far above the other. She aided and encouraged all public improvements—the roads of her kingdom were known for many years after her time as “Bruneau’s causeways”—and she was a generous patron of arts and letters.

#### EXPEDITIONS OF GOSNOLD.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.

Give a short account of Bartholomew Gosnold, and of his expedition to the coast of New England.

H. WARREN.

*Answer.*—Bartholomew Gosnold was an English mariner whom we first find mentioned in history as an associate of Sir Walter Raleigh in the attempt to found a colony in the New World. In 1602, he sailed for America in a vessel with twenty colonists. He steered directly across the Atlantic, instead of taking the circuitous southern course previously chosen by navigators. In seven weeks he reached Cape Elizabeth, on the coast of Maine. Following the coast to the southwest, he passed a point of wooded land. He cast anchor on the shore of what is now New York harbor, where he was visited by natives. Thence he went southward, and May 15 discovered the promontory which he called Cape Cod, and there, with four of his men, he went ashore. Then, doubling the cape, he touched at the small island now called No Man’s Land and named it Martha’s Vineyard. This name has since been given to the much larger neighboring island. Then he rounded the promontory of G-y Head, naming it Dover Cliff, and entered Buzzard’s Bay, which he called Gosnold’s Hope. He landed on the westernmost of the chain of islands extending into the bay, and called it Elizabeth, from the Queen; this name has since been given to the whole group. The land on which Gosnold landed is now known as Cuttyhunk. The voy-

agers were delighted with the beauty of the island, whereon were beautiful trees and wild flowers, vines and shrubs heavy with bloom. Within a pond on the island is a rocky islet, on which the colony built a storehouse and a fort, laying the foundations of the first English colony in America, which were not destined, however, to be enduring. “The island, the pond and the islet,” says Bancroft, “are yet visible; the shrubs are luxuriant as of old; but the forests are gone, and the ruins of the fort can no longer be discovered.” Gosnold went to the main land and trafficked with the natives for an abundant supply of sassafras root, with which he loaded his vessel. This root was at that time regarded in pharmacy as a sovereign panacea for all ailments, so Gosnold had a valuable cargo. But when he was about to set sail again, with the promise of returning and bringing out yet more colonists and supplies, his little band of settlers refused to be left behind. They were afraid of the Indians, who had already manifested hostility, and they were afraid that they would be out of provisions before the ship could return to them. So all went back to England again in June. The other expedition was completed in a little over three months. Gosnold and his companions spread the most favorable reports of the lands they had visited, which led to the voyages of Pring in 1603 and Waymouth in 1605 (neither of these effecting any settlement, however), and finally to the sending of a colony to Virginia in 1606, which proved to be the first permanent English settlement in the new world. Gosnold accompanied this colony, but in the sickness which prevailed in the summer of 1607 he died, and was buried on the shores of the James River.

#### JOSEPHUS.

LAKOTA, Mich.

Give a biography of Josephus, the ancient historian.

U. S. TAYLOR.

*Answer.*—Flavius Josephus was born at Jerusalem about A. D. 37. His father belonged to the family of the high priests, and his mother was descended from the Asmonean princes. He received a superior education, and was well acquainted not only with Jewish, but also with Greek and Roman literature. He studied the doctrines of the three Jewish sects, joined that of the Essenes, and spent three years in the desert with one of its ascetic leaders. Then he returned to the faith to which he had been born, that of the Pharisees. When he was 26 years old, he was sent to Rome to plead the cause of some Jewish priests who had been imprisoned by the Roman procurator Felix. He not only secured the object of his mission, but gained the favor of the Empress Poppæa, the wife of Nero, who made him many valuable gifts. When he came back to Jerusalem, he

found his countrymen determined on a revolt against Roman rule, and he used his utmost endeavor to dissuade them from the rash movement, but finding this impossible, he joined with them, was made a general, and sent to defend the province of Galilee. Finding the Galilean Jews divided among themselves on the question of resisting the Romans, Josephus took his forces into the strong fortress Jotapata, where he was besieged by the Roman army for forty-seven days. Even after the stronghold was taken, he did not surrender, but escaped with forty companions and hid in a cave. Here he was treacherously betrayed to the Romans. He then assumed the character of a prophet and foretold that the Roman general, Vespasian, should one day come to the imperial throne. He was kept bound, however, until this prediction was fulfilled, three years later, when his chains were cut from him as a sign that he had been unjustly confined. Vespasian then went to Rome, leaving his son Titus in command of the army. The latter soon after laid siege to Jerusalem, and induced Josephus to speak to his countrymen, urging them to surrender their city without resistance. Being convinced that the Jews were altogether incapable of making any effective stand against the greatly superior force of the Romans and that the effort to do so could only end in the destruction of the city, he earnestly advised a capitulation, but the people would not listen to him. They denounced him as a traitor, and even sought to kill him, and continued the defense of the city to the last extremity. After the city had fallen, Josephus returned with Titus to Rome, where he spent the remainder of his life in literary pursuits. He was given the freedom of the city, a fine residence, and an annual pension. His principal works were: "History of the Jewish War," written first in Hebrew, and translated by the author into Greek, and published about 75 A. D.; and a treatise on "Jewish Antiquities," written in Greek and completed about 93. He also wrote his own biography, and a treatise upon the antiquity of the Jewish nation. Josephus was three times married, and was divorced from his first two wives. The date of his death is not exactly known, but it is supposed to have been about 103 A. D.

#### DESTRUCTION OF FORESTS.

EUREKA, III.

Give some information as to the rate of destruction of our forests.

L. G. W.

*Answer.*—The census of 1880 was the first which attempted to make any inquiry into the extent, character or consumption of the forests in this country. The results of this inquiry were very important. Previous to this time some attention had been called to the rapid de-

struction of timber that was going on, but no one had any idea of the extent of this reckless waste. The census report gave the amount of white pine alone cut in the United States during the census year at eleven billion feet, and asserted that such a rate of consumption, if continued, would exhaust the entire pine forests of the country in another decade. There has been a lessening in the rate of consumption since that time, and a good deal of effort has been made to replace the timber destroyed by planting new trees. The American Forestry Association, which had been formed in 1875, and which, in 1882, was merged in the American Forestry Congress, has done a great deal to enlighten public sentiment on the important subject of protecting the forests. In 1885, the report of this congress estimated the value of the wood annually converted into lumber at \$233,387,729, and of that consumed for domestic purposes each year at \$321,962,373. Another very large demand upon the forests is made for railroad ties. Of this the report mentioned said: "There are now in use in this country about 150,000 miles of railroads, which have required 396,000,000 ties, or the wood supplied by 3,390,000 acres, an area larger than that of the States of Rhode Island and Connecticut. Estimating that ties need to be renewed on an average once in seven years, there must be drawn from the forest annually 56,571,428 ties, requiring the timber of 565,714 acres. Allowing thirty years as the time necessary to produce trees of the proper dimensions for ties, it will require 16,971,420 acres of woodland to be kept constantly growing as a kind of railroad reserve in order to supply the annual needs of the existing roads. This constitutes an area larger than the States of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts combined, or the States of New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware and Connecticut. It is more than 4 per cent of the total area of wood land in the United States, exclusive of the territories, and 3 per cent of the area in States and Territories together." Further drain is made on our forests by forest fires and browsing animals. The forest area burned over in 1880 was estimated at 10,274,089 acres, involving a loss of \$25,462,450. Browsing animals are another source of great injury to forest trees. Professor Sargent, who prepared the census report, says: "Fire and browsing animals inflict greater permanent injury upon the forests of the country than the axe recklessly and wastefully as it is generally used against them." Though the lavish, even reckless, use of our forests goes on, important methods have been taken to replace them. The institution of Arbor Day in nearly all of the Western States; a day devoted each year to tree planting, has done much, and also the laws

permitting settlers to pre-empt land on the condition of setting it out in trees. These two things have aided greatly in replenishing our forest wealth.

#### THE VATICAN HEBREW BIBLE.

MCPHERSON, Kan.

Give a history of the Vatican Hebrew Bible for which such a large price was recently offered.

J. N. COBURN.

*Answer.*—This copy was one of the treasures of the illustrious Dukes of Urbino, and during the latter part of the fifteenth century was presented to the Vatican. In 1512, when Pope Julius II. was very much in need of funds to keep up the "Holy League" against Louis XII. of France, the Jews of Venice wanted to buy this copy. They offered at first £10,000, then increased the offer, and finally tendered a blank order on one of their number in Venice, to be filled up in ducats according to the weight of the Bible, as against an equal weight of pure gold. The Pope got so far as to weigh the precious volume, and found that it scaled 325 pounds avoirdupois, or 433 pounds odd troy, which at \$4 the ounce, then about the value of gold, represented the enormous sum of \$20,784 and a fraction, or about \$108,920. This amount in its equivalent the Jews pressed on the Pope, who, however, either because he found himself unable to part with property in which he would not seem to have more than a life interest, or on account of the pressure brought to bear on him, declined, after much hesitation, to part with the volume. The present offer is made by the wealthy Jews of France, who will give, it is said, £40,000 for the volume.

#### THE MORRILL TARIFF ACT.

ROMLEY, Col.

A local paper states that the Morrill tariff bill was signed by Buchanan March 2, 1861. Is that correct?

R. W. PEABOE.

*Answer.*—Buchanan signed the tariff act March 2, 1861, which was protective in its tendency, but the Morrill bill was signed by Lincoln, August 1, 1861, the act of March never having been put into practical use. The increased expenditures of the war made the Morrill act a necessity.

#### THE ACTRESS LOTTA.

STREATOR, Ill.

Give a brief biography of the famous actress Lotta.

L. K.

*Answer.*—The full name of the famous Lotta is Charlotte Crabtree. She was born on Grand street, New York, Nov. 7, 1847, and, at 6 years of age, went with her parents to California. She made her debut on the stage at the age of 8, as a vocalist. She first appeared as an actress in 1858, in Petaluma, Cal., as Gertrude in "The Loan of a Lover." She first appeared in New York June 1, 1864, at Niblo's,

but as the place was not well adapted to dramatic performances, she did not make a good impression. She then traveled through the West for a year under the management of B. F. Whitman, and wherever she appeared she met with excellent success. In that tour she laid the foundations of her lasting reputation. At the close of her engagement with Whitman she went on a starring tour, accompanied by her parents, and "from that time to the present," says J. Allston Brown, in his "History of the American Stage," "she has been one of the most pleasing and best paying stars in America." She opened a summer's engagement at Wallack's Theater, New York, Aug. 10, 1868, in a drama written expressly for her, called "Firefly." The vivacity and amiability of this actress have enabled her to retain the favor of the theater-going public for a long term of years, for she is still an object of general admiration.

#### ONE OF THACKERAY'S CHARACTERS.

NORTH MANCHESTER, Ind.

Was Lord Steyne, who figures in Thackeray's "Vanity Fair," and "Pendennis" a real personage? Trollope, in his life of Thackeray, seems to say that there was such a man. Give something about his life.

READER.

*Answer.*—Many of Thackeray's characters are believed to have been drawn from real life, but this idea is not always founded upon sufficient evidence to be unreservedly accepted. It has been asserted that in the character of Lord Steyne the novelist intended to represent the Marquis of Hertford, a notorious character in his time, very dissolute and very rich. This nobleman, whose name was Richard Seymour, was born in 1800, and held a commission as Captain in the army until, in his 48d year, he succeeded to the family wealth and title. It seems plain that he might have stood for the character of Lord Steyne, but that the novelist intended to represent him is a mere matter of conjecture.

#### PATAGONIA.

WORCESTER, Mass.

Tell something of the southern peninsula of South America. Who inhabit it? If civilized, have its inhabitants any trade or towns of any size?

A. APPELBY.

*Answer.*—The southern peninsula of South America, long known as Patagonia, has been since 1881 divided between Chili and the Argentine Republic, the boundary line following the water-shed of the Andes. In this division 62,930 square miles fell to Chili, and 259,620 to the Argentine Republic. The Rio-Negro was the old northern boundary of Patagonia. The Chilean part of the peninsula is cut up into islands and peninsulas by deep fiords or arms of the sea. There are very few inhabitants in this part of the country. A limited

number of the aboriginal Araucanians still live there, but it has not invited white settlement. Near the Straits of Magellan is the Chilean military post and penal settlement of Punta Arenas, or Sanday Point. This was founded in 1857. In spite of occasional convict mutinies, the settlement has been a flourishing one; in 1875 it had a population of 915, and since that date several cattle stations have been established along the coast, which have brought to this port considerable trade. Coal is worked in the neighborhood of Punta Arenas, and much timber obtained from the mountain forests is exported. East of the Andes, the Argentine district consists of vast steppe-like plains. These plains are not covered with soil, but with a bed of shingle which is capable of supporting very little vegetation. Large tracts of it are absolutely bare; others have a thin covering of coarse and often thorny brushwood and herbage. Limited tracts along the river valleys have some alluvial soil that supports a richer vegetation. Near the foot of the Andes the vegetation is very luxuriant, having majestic trees and thick undergrowth. Eastern Patagonia is traversed by a number of rivers, but few, if any, can be of much use as highways. They have but few tributaries, rain falls seldom, and the water sinks away rapidly in the shingly soil. The whole seaboard has only two safe harbors. The first settlement was made on Patagonian territory by Pedro de Gamboa, who founded colonies at Nombro de Dios and San Felipe about 1579. These were neglected by the Spanish government and the latter was in such a wretched state when some English explorers visited it in 1597 that they called it Port Famine. The aboriginal inhabitants of Eastern Patagonia were the largest race of people ever known, their average height being 5 feet 11 inches. Very little settlement has been made by white men in this territory. Besides El Carmen or Patagones, near the mouth of the Rio Negro, a place of about 1,700 inhabitants in 1869, there were not at that time any settlements of any size between Rio Negro and the strait, but since 1882, beginnings of colonization have been made at several of the more promising points. But this section of country has had very little share in the commercial prosperity enjoyed by the fertile Argentine territory north of the Rio Negro.

#### WAS JAMES G. BLAINE DRAFTED?

SHELDON, Iowa.

Was James G. Blaine drafted during the war, and did he hire a substitute? JUDG GRIGGS.

*Answer.*—Mr. H. J. Ramsdell, a well-known newspaper writer of Washington, in a life of Mr. Blaine published in 1884, relates the following: "About this time (that is, in the early days of Mr. Blaine's services in Congress) ensued an episode which may be mentioned not

for its intrinsic importance, but because malicious tongues have dwelt upon it, and because there is nothing which needs to be covered up or slurred over in the life of the Republican candidate. Congress passed a conscription law, for which Mr. Blaine voted, and in which there was, singularly enough, no exemption of Senators and Representatives from the draft. His name went into the box with the rest in his district, and was one of the first to be drawn. What was he to do? The brilliant orator and statesman, whose organizing powers were so much needed in the civil contests at home, would have been sadly and absurdly lost to the cause, tramping through the far South with a musket over his shoulder. If he had used his influence to secure a commission, as he might easily have done, a raw and inexperienced officer would have displaced some one better fitted for military command. Mr. Blaine's abundant courage needed no proof then or at any time afterward. Instead of pleading exemption he saw that a recruit was secured with his own means to fill the place in the quota of Maine, and continued the legislative work to which his country had given him a prior call."

#### ST. DAVID, OF WALES.

CHESTERFIELD, Ill.

Give a sketch of St. David, the patron saint of Wales. R. G. NEWTON.

*Answer.*—David, the holy man who became the apostle of Christianity in, and after his death was regarded as the patron saint of, Wales, was born near St. Bride's Bay on the coast of Wales. Tradition says that he was the son of the Prince of Cardiganshire, and that he was born about the year 446. He early consecrated himself to a religious life, and studied for ten years under the holy teacher Paulinus in Caermarthenshire. He then began to preach, and, traveling through Britain, founded twelve monasteries. One of these was in the village where he was born, called Mynyw by the early Britons, and Men-evia by the Romans. Here he settled, and many disciples joined him, all devoting themselves to prayer and study. In 519 a synod was called at Brefi, to suppress the Pelagian heresy. David was summoned by Paulinus to attend this meeting and give his testimony for the true faith. He was very loth to do so, because he loved retirement and quiet above all things, but believing it to be his duty he obeyed the summons, and discoursed so eloquently before the synod that he altogether silenced the Pelagians. This led to his being made archbishop of Caerleon upon Usk. He declined the office at first, but later accepted it on condition that the archiepiscopal

residence should be removed to his beloved town of Menevia. A second synod was called by David at Caerleon in 529, which finally overcame the Pelagians, and was therefore styled the "Synod of Victory." St. David was a very laborious prelate, in spite of his love of retirement, and his virtues and learning caused him to be greatly revered by the people. He died in 544. Many legends are told of the holy man. It is said that when he was taken as an infant for baptism to the Bishop of Munster, at Porthlaes, water being difficult to obtain because of a dry season, a spring was miraculously produced for the christening. It is also told that when he was speaking against the Pelagians at Brei the ground on which he stood rose under him, so as to elevate him above the heads of the people, and at the same time a white dove descended from heaven and sat upon his shoulder. His death was also said to have been foretold to him by angels.

## JOHN WILKES.

CHICAGO.

Give a biography of Mr. Wilkes, to whom reference is so often made in the letters of Junius.

G. A. RICHARDS.

*Answer.*—John Wilkes was born in London, in 1727. His father, a rich distiller, gave him a liberal education, of which his natural talents enabled him to take the utmost advantage. He was learned and witty, and possessed of a natural gayety of temper, and these qualities, combined with his wealth and lavish generosity, made him a great favorite with the juvenile aristocracy of the day. At the age of 22 he was drawn by his relations into marrying a rich heiress, nearly ten years his senior. There was neither love nor sympathetic tastes in this union, and at the end of two years Wilkes left his wife, and plunged into gay and vicious society. He was very ambitious of personal distinction, and therefore desired to enter politics. In 1757, having been defeated as a Parliamentary candidate in Berwick, he bought himself a seat for Aylesbury. His extravagance having nearly exhausted his patrimony, in 1762, he started a periodical called the *North Briton*. In this he attacked the Scotch prime minister, Lord Bute, with excessive bitterness. In April, 1763, in a special number of his paper he attacked the royal speech. The new prime minister, Greville, immediately arrested Wilkes on a general warrant, and he was sent to the tower, but was released a week later on the plea that his privilege as a member of Parliament gave him immunity from arrest. General warrants were afterwards declared illegal and Wilkes obtained a verdict for damages against the government. Thus far, he had

triumphed over his enemies, but he gave them good cause to get the better of him soon after, by reprinting his attack on the crown, and also publishing, for private circulation, a limited number of copies of an obscene poem. It was now declared by resolution, in Parliament, that "The privilege of Parliament did not extend to the case of publishing and writing of seditious libels," and the House of Peers began a prosecution against Wilkes, who had fled to Paris, and a sentence of condemnation and outlawry was passed upon him. However, in 1768, he again returned to London, and ventured to offer himself as a candidate for the city in Parliament, but was not elected. Then began the struggle which really made the name of John Wilkes famous; the struggle for the right of the British constituencies to be represented, in all instances, by the member of its choice. Immediately after his defeat for London, he announced himself as a candidate for Middlesex, and was elected. His sentence of outlawry was reversed on a technical point, but on the original charge he was ordered to pay a fine of £1,000 and sentenced to imprisonment for twenty-two months. Further, he was expelled from the House of Commons, and a new writ was issued for Middlesex. The electors returned Wilkes a second time. The Commons decided that Wilkes, having been expelled, was incapable of being returned to the same Parliament, and that his election was null and void; but the electors of Middlesex again returned him by a majority of 800 over the court candidate, Colonel Luttrell. However, the House declared that as Wilkes was not an eligible candidate, Luttrell had been elected. A storm of party fury now raged through the country. "Wilkes and liberty" was the watchword of the Whigs, and the prominent members of the party visited his prison cell daily and contributed large sums of money for his support. So great was the popular sympathy with this man that a keen critic of the times declared that could he and the King change characters—that is, had George III. been a bad and Wilkes a good man—that monarch would have been driven from his throne. Every year the Whigs vainly attempted to push through Parliament a resolution recognizing the election of Wilkes, but in 1774 Parliament was dissolved, Wilkes was again returned for Middlesex, and was this time allowed to take his seat, and the contest against him was not reopened. He now endeavored to have the resolution which had declared his incapacity expunged from the journal of the house "as subversive of the rights of the whole body of electors." Year after year



he renewed his petition to this end, but it was not successful until 1782. During these years Wilkes had been waging another contest also with Parliament. The right of reporting the debates of the house had always been denied by Parliament, and all printers who issued such reports were prosecuted. Wilkes—who had been elected an alderman of London in 1769, in 1771 was chosen Sheriff of London and Middlesex and in 1774, was made Lord Mayor of London—took up the cause of the printers. He was backed by all the city authorities, and the contest really took the form of a struggle between the city and Parliament. Several city officers were imprisoned but on the dissolution of Parliament were released, and the freedom of publication of parliamentary debates was thus assured. Though brilliant and popular in conversation, Wilkes was an utter failure as a parliamentary speaker, and never had any weight whatever in the House. In 1779 he was elected Chamberlain of the City of London by a large majority, and held the office until his death in December, 1797.

#### HELGOLAND.

##### GLADSTONE, Iowa.

Tell something about the island of Heligoland. What is the meaning of its name? How did England gain possession of it? W. FINN.

*Answer.*—Heligoland is an island in the North Sea, about forty miles northwest of the mouth of the Elbe River. It is one of the ancient Frisian islands, and its inhabitants still speak that tongue to a certain extent. On this island was the temple of the goddess Hertha, one of the famous Scandinavian deities, and thither came the Angles from the mainland to worship at her shrine. King Radbod lived on the island, and there, about the year 600 A. D., St. Willebrod preached Christianity to the people and gave the island the name which it now bears—Heligoland—meaning “holy land,” because of the ready conversion of the people. Many sea-rovers fought for possession of the little isle, and finally it became a fief of the dukes of Holstein, and these impecunious nobles used to pawn it periodically whenever they were in need of a loan. In 1714, the Danes took it from the Holsteiners, and in 1807 it was captured by the British. In 1814 it was formally ceded to the latter power. The island is triangular, about a mile long, and not more than half a mile wide. It has a population of about 2,000. There are some 500 houses on the island, divided into a lower town on the coast, and an upper town on the cliff above and connected with the lower town by a wooden stair of 190 steps, the only possible means of communication between the two sections. No horses are kept on the island, and the two cows

that are taken there in the summer to supply milk to invalid visitors, are removed at the end of the season to the main land. Several thousand people visit the island every year for sea-bathing, but few persons live there except the native fishermen, and a limited number of Germans who manage the trade of the island. The soil of the island is fertile, and both grain and vegetables are raised. Quite a number of sheep are kept on the island, which are fed on fish in the winter. The island is ruled by a governor appointed by the crown, aided by an executive council. This form of government was established in 1868.

#### THE CENSUS.

##### GRAND LEDGE, Mich.

Tell us something of the history of past census work, methods of taking census, etc.

##### E. F. TANNER.

*Answer.*—Previous to 1790 there were no definite figures of population; everything was estimate. During the life of the Continental Congress the taxation apportionment, as well as the calls for troops from the colonies, was made on meager information, and that often of a purely conjectural character. Mr. De Bow, who edited the census returns in 1850, gave the following estimates of colonial population: 1707, 262,000; 1749, 1,046,000; 1775, 2,803,000. Mr. Bancroft gives the estimates of the Board of Trade, which had its agents in the colonies, as follows: 1714, 434,600; 1727, 580,000; 1754, 1,485,634. Originally the Constitution of the United States provided for an enumeration of the population as often as once in every ten years, as follows: “Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within the Union according to their respective numbers, which may be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons.” The actual enumeration to be made within three years after the meeting of Congress, and every subsequent term of ten years. The first act of Congress for the census-taking was dated March 1, 1790; the enumeration was to begin the first Monday of August, and close within nine months thereafter. The free persons were to be distinguished from others, males and females, and Indians not taxed were to be omitted from the enumeration. Free males of 16 years and over were to be distinguished from those under that age. It will be interesting to know in these days—when the census volume on population alone comprises 1,061 pages—that the report of the first census is embraced in a pamphlet of fifty-two pages.

In the first census the marshals were by law directed to cause the number of inhabitants within their respective districts to be taken. By that census there were 3,929,214 persons in the United States, of whom 697,681 were slaves and 59,527 were free colored persons. The first apportionment of representatives was made a part of the Constitution from the necessity of the case, as no census could be taken until the government was organized. Thomas Jefferson, as Secretary of State, certified as to the correctness of the schedule of population, Oct. 24, 1791. The United States was the first government of modern times to order and take a periodical National census. Since that time the census has become broader and more comprehensive and more valuable. Early in the history of the census the marshals were required to report to and receive their instructions from the Secretary of State, who issued directions as to their duties. In 1810 the act provided for an enumeration of the inhabitants, distinguishing between races, sexes, and ages; the marshals made their reports to the Secretary of State at the end of nine months. In 1820 another step forward was taken, in that it was required of the enumerators that their reports show the number of persons engaged in agriculture, manufactures, and commerce. The second census covered 88 pages, the third 90, and the fourth 168 folio pages. In this there was an alphabetical list of the various manufactures, comprising 205 classes, and a table showing the kind of manufactures, materials used, persons employed, machinery, expenditures, production, and values of production, etc. In 1830 there was required an enumeration of the deaf, dumb, and blind, but there were no statistics of agriculture, manufactures, or commerce. In 1838 preparations were made for taking the sixth census, and the act is very comprehensive, embracing the enumeration of the population, with classification, according to age, sex, and color. the deaf, dumb, and blind, insane, idiots, free and slave colored; number of persons drawing pensions from the United States, with their names and ages; also statistical tables of mines, agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and schools. The returns made show the products of mines, manufactures, number of bushels of grain of every kind, of potatoes, tons of hay and hemp, pounds of tobacco and cotton and sugar, the value of dairy products, etc. The census of 1850 was placed under the charge of the newly created Department of the Interior. Secretary Ewing was authorized to appoint a suitable person as superintendent, who should have the management of all matters pertaining to the census, and the salary was fixed at \$2,500

per annum. The sum of \$150,000 was appropriated for the purpose by Congress. The first superintendent was Joseph C. G. Kennedy, of Pennsylvania. It is said that this gentleman was the author of the act of 1850; he was removed for political reasons by President Pierce, and J. D. B. De Bow, of Louisiana, published, as his successor, the volume of statistics; but a subsequent volume of manufacturing statistics was published in President Buchanan's administration by Mr. Kennedy, who had been reappointed to the office of superintendent to succeed Mr. De Bow, and who superintended the eighth census in 1860. In the taking of the ninth census the act of 1850 was substantially followed, and General Francis A. Walker was the superintendent. There were the volumes of statistics, of population, agriculture, and manufactures, and, besides, a compendium was issued Nov. 1, 1872, in which were well prepared summaries of the more important reports. It is believed by some statisticians that the census of the colored race in 1870 was inaccurate, because of the peculiarly disadvantageous circumstances under which the enumeration was had; the statistics of 1880 were much more accurate than those of 1870, for the reason chiefly that the enumerators were generally much more competent persons in every respect, and the difficulties of 1870 had largely disappeared. The tenth census act directed the establishment of a census office in the Department of the Interior. Additions were made to the previous acts, such as the indebtedness of cities, counties, and incorporated villages; reports were provided for from railways, to ascertain their condition, business, etc.; also, similar information was asked for in regard to express and telegraph companies; experts were employed in place of the enumerators to collect social and manufacturing statistics. The maximum cost of the census was not to exceed \$3,000,000; it has cost over \$6,000,000 by supplementary appropriations that were required to finish the large scope of inquiry and work laid out by the Superintendent and Secretary of the Interior. General Walker was appointed Superintendent of the census April 1, 1879, and resigned Nov. 3, 1881, and was succeeded by Charles W. Seaton, who died before the work was completed. That census fills twenty quarto volumes, besides the statistics in brief of population, agriculture, manufactures, and commerce. The office of Superintendent of the Census was abolished in 1885, and was re-established by the act of March 1, 1889, the salary being fixed at \$6,000 a year. Robert P. Porter was appointed

Superintendent. He had charge of an important division of the census of 1880, and was considered well fitted for the work. The enumerators who have been at work number about 40,000; there are about 1,000 clerks, 1,000 special agents, and 175 supervisors. In cities the law requires that the population shall be counted in fifteen days, and in thirty days in country districts.

## THE SILKWORM.

JOLIET, Ill.

Give description of the habits, etc., of the silkworm.  
D. L. D.

*Answer.*—The silkworm is the larva of a lepidopterous insect of the family bombycidae. Its generic name is *bombyx mori*. The moth of this insect is of an ashy white color, with a body not more than half an inch in length, the female being somewhat longer and stouter. The wings are short and weak, especially in the case of the females, who are very inactive, but the males fly swiftly in the evening and sometimes by day. A few weeks after the eggs are deposited on the mulberry leaf, the female moth dies. The eggs are about the size of mustard seeds, and if the air about them is warm and dry they hatch in a few days. When first hatched they are very small, and dark colored, and they very soon begin to eat voraciously, and continue to devour the leaves of the trees, on which they live, greedily, until they are full-grown, which is usually a term of about thirty-two days, though if kept at a high temperature they mature in a much shorter time. The worm lives exposed in its wild state, but when cultivated for its silk it is never allowed to incur the risks of life in the open air. Like most other caterpillars, the silkworm changes its skin four times, at intervals which depend upon the temperature and the quantity and quality of the food. When mature the worm is about three inches long, of a light green color, with darker marks, with blackish head, and a spine-like protuberance on the tail. The appetite of the worm increases with its size until the fourth moulting time, which is usually the twenty-second day of the life of the worm, then the silk gum is formed, the appetite becomes less, and the larva begins to spin its cocoon. The spinning apparatus is near the worm's mouth, and is connected with the silk glands, which are two long, thick-walled bags running along the sides of the body, which open by a common orifice on the under lip of the larva. They are filled with a liquid gum, and in the spinning process the worm ejects from both bags simultaneously a slender thread of the gum, which, by contact with the air, is stiffened into the silky texture;

each thread of silk thus consists of two strands. A piece of rolled paper or a twig is usually supplied to the worms for the convenient formation of the cocoons. They first make an outer covering of floss silk to keep off the rain; within this they spin fine silk, bending the head up and down as they do so, and crossing to each side, entirely surrounding the body as a protection against wind and cold. Within all this a more delicate silk is spun, which is glued firmly together for the inner chamber, resisting both cold air and water. The work of making the cocoon usually takes from one to three days, and when complete it is about an inch and a half long, has the shape of a pigeon's egg, and is of a bright yellow. Within this the larva rolls itself up in the form of a chrysalis, inside of which the organs of the moth gradually develop. At the end of a certain time, which may be from two to six weeks, according to the temperature, the skin of the chrysalis gives way, the moth escapes into the cocoon chamber, and readily tears or eats its way through the silk inclosure. When the worms are raised for their silk, the cocoons are usually thrown into boiling water to kill the moth, before the silk is unwound. A better plan, however, has been tried in recent years. This is to steam the cocoons over hot water, which softens the glue sufficiently to allow the unwinding of the silk, and allows the moth to come forth alive from the interior layer and deposit the eggs or prepare for a new brood. Success in raising the silkworm depends on securing for it warm, dry and pure air and plenty of proper food. The insect is very delicate; it is subject to certain diseases, and is very sensitive to chill, dampness, or foul air of any kind. The only food on which it thrives well is the foliage of the mulberry tree.

## POMPEII, HERCULANEUM, AND STABIE.

FAIRHAVEN, Wash.

Tell something of the destruction of the three cities of Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Stabiae. When were they built and what population had they?  
C. N. S.

*Answer.*—These three cities were involved in a common destruction Aug. 24, 79 A. D., through an eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Pompeii was situated about twelve miles southeast of Neapolis (now Naples) at the foot of Vesuvius, and Herculaneum was near the northwest base of the mountain, about five miles from the same city. Stabiae was on the coast, two miles from the River Sarnus. Herculaneum is said to have been founded by Hercules. Its history is obscure and it never seems to have been a place of much importance. It was on elevated ground, and was considered a

very healthy city, and thus came to be a favorite resort for wealthy Romans, who built many magnificent villas there. The town of Pompeii is not mentioned in history until the latter part of the fourth century, B. C., though it probably is much older. It also was a favorite summer resort of the Romans. Like Herculaneum, it is believed to have been founded by Hercules, but the origin of its name is unknown. Stabiae was also largely made up of villas and pleasure grounds, and is thought to have been much the smallest of the three places. Pompeii and Herculaneum both had the rights of a municipium under the Roman law and chose their own local officers and made their own laws. But nothing is certainly known of the population of the cities nor how many of their citizens were involved in the destruction of the towns. For eight days and nights the volcano threw out torrents of mud, filling these cities to the very roofs of the houses and afterward poured out torrents of lava and showers of ashes. A deposit of nearly seventy feet in depth was formed for many miles by the eruption. The towns were buried so completely that their very sites became in a century or so quite forgotten. Seventeen hundred years later the situation of the ruined cities was accidentally discovered—in 1709—and since that time quite an extent of both Herculaneum and Pompeii have been uncovered by excavations.

#### STATE AND NATIONAL BANKS.

STAFFORDVILLE, N. J.

Give the differences between State and National banks.

TYRO.

*Answer.*—State banks are now banks of deposit only. They were allowed, previous to the war, to issue notes for circulation; but this privilege is now confined to National banks. There are about 1,000 State banks and trust companies in the United States now. These are required to make annual reports to the Treasury Department at Washington, concerning their capital and deposits. The National banks are under the same necessity. The banking laws bear with equal strictness upon both classes of banks. The only real difference between them is that National banks have the right to issue circulating notes.

#### PERSEPOLIS.

HYDE PARK, Ill.

Where was the ancient city of Persepolis taken by Alexander the Great? Do any traces of it exist?

H. L. J.

*Answer.*—Persepolis was the Greek name of the ancient capital of Persia. Its Persian name is not known. It stood in the midst of a fertile and beautiful plain, near the confluence of River Araxes (now Bendimir), and the

Medus (now Pulwan). Very little is known of the age and history of the city. Some antiquarians suppose it to have been identical with Pasargada, where, history tells us, Cyrus the Great had his palace, but this is not certain. But Xerxes and Darius Hystaspis resided at Persepolis, and in their time the city was known to the Greeks as a marvel of splendor and magnificence. Alexander completely destroyed the city, and we only find it mentioned once in history after his time, which was when Antiochus, the Syrian ruler, visited it for the sake of plunder. No traces of the city itself can be now found, but some interesting ruins of its palaces have been discovered.

#### THE LEGEND OF ST. DAVID'S LEEK.

ROME, Mich.

Our Curiosity Shop has given us the authentic part of the story of St. David of Wales. Can it also give the legend which connects him with the plant called the leek and tell why Welshmen wear a leek in their hats on St. David's Day?

READER.

*Answer.*—This very old legend is given in a book entitled "The Seven Champions of Christendom," written by Richard Johnson in the seventeenth century. According to that chronicler, St. David was one of the knights released from the brazen castle of the Enchantress Kalyb by the heroic knight St. George. When set free St. David set off for foreign countries in search of yet greater adventures and came to the court of the Emperor of Tartary. Here he was invited to take part in a tournament, to be held in honor of the ruler's birthday, and proved himself the most valorous knight there, winning the tournament and killing the emperor's son. His majesty would have slain the stranger knight on the spot, but such a deed would have been a violation of the laws of arms, so he contented himself with sending St. David to an enchanted garden on the borders of Tartary, kept by a famous necromancer named Ormandine. The Emperor told David if he would kill this necromancer and bring away his head he should have the right of succeeding to the throne of Tartary. The hero gave his knightly pledge to fulfill the task assigned him, and set forth, but on reaching the garden he was put into an enchanted sleep, wherein he remained seven years. At the end of that time St. George came to the garden, killed the necromancer, and waking St. David up, gave him the necromancer's head and bade him return with it to the ruler of Tartary. This St. David did, and, having thus shown that he could fulfill a pledge, departed westward in search of other adventures. At Constantinople he heard that Wales was beset by a

savage people, who were endeavoring to destroy the brave kingdom. (According to this chronicler, St. David was himself a native of Scotland.) We quote here the words of the original chronicler: "As he traveled he drew to his aid the best knights that he could find of any nation. By the time that he came to the borders of Wales he had gathered 500 knights. Entering the country he found everything in disorder. As the knights marched along the people bitterly complained of their wrongs, and, learning that St. David was the champion of Wales, they expressed great joy. Arriving where the savages were, St. David addressed his knights, urging them to arms, saying: 'I will be the first to give death the onset, and for my colors or ensign do I wear upon my burgonet a green leek, beset with gold, which shall hereafter be an honor unto Wales if we have victory, and on this day, the 1st of March, shall it be forever worn by Welshmen in remembrance thereof.' Each knight then placed a green leek upon their hats." The account of the battle says that St. David and his followers were victorious over the pagans, many of whom were killed; but, says the tale, "St. David, by fatal chance, as he was coming from the battle, overheated in blood, a sudden cold congealed in all his members, and he was forced to yield unto death, to the great grief of all knights and followers, who for forty days mourned for him. The day of the victory is celebrated by Welshmen wearing green leeks in their hats or on their bosoms." The reader will readily see that the St. David of the church calendar, whose actual existence is authenticated, is an entirely different individual from this legendary hero of the leek.

#### ELECTORAL VOTE, 1860—SLAVE REPRESENTATION.

TORG BEAN, Texas.

1. Did any of the Southern States cast their electoral votes for Lincoln in 1860? 2. Did any of the Southern States ever have a law that gave a slaveholder the right to cast one vote for each slave owned?

C. A. YOUNG.

*Answer.*—1. None of the slave States voted for Lincoln in 1860. Douglas and Johnson received the electoral vote of Missouri and part of that of New Jersey. The votes of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia were given to Bell and Everett, and the votes of all the other slave States went for Breckinridge and Lane. It was the solid vote of the North—solid except for the split in the electoral vote of New Jersey—that elected Mr. Lincoln. 2. The Federal basis of representation for the slaves prevailed generally through the South before the war. This provided not for a direct representation of the slaves by votes cast by their owners, but that

they should be counted to increase the representation of the slave States in Congress. The provision of the Constitution was that "Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons." An attempt was made in Virginia in 1829, when her State constitution was under revision, to substitute an exclusively white basis for representation for that embodied in the Federal Constitution. After the attempt to embody this change in the State constitution had failed it was proposed that the apportionment for members of the State Senate should be based upon Federal numbers (the white inhabitants with "three-fifths of all other persons"), and that for the House on the white population only, but this was also voted down. The Federal basis of representation in the slave States, therefore, held until the war.

#### THE DEPENDENT PENSION ACT.

BRITTEN, Baker County, Ore.

How shall we apply for a pension under the dependent pension act? GEO. H. PATRICKS.

*Answer.*—We have had a large number of questions in regard to the dependent pension act which has just become a law, and we republish the act for the information of all our interested readers:

AN ACT granting pensions to soldiers and sailors who are incapacitated for the performance of manual labor, and providing for pensions to widows, minor children, and dependent parents.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That in considering the pension claims of dependent parents, the fact of the soldier's death by reason of any wound, injury, casualty, or disease which, under the conditions and limitations of existing laws, would have entitled him to an invalid pension, and the fact that the soldier left no widow or minor children having been shown as required by law, it shall be necessary only to show by competent and sufficient evidence that such parent or parents are without other present means of support than their own manual labor or the contributions of others not legally bound for their support: *Provided,* That all pensions allowed to dependent parents under this act shall commence from date of the filing of the application hereunder and shall continue no longer than the existence of the dependence.

Sec. 2. That all persons who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the late war of the rebellion, and who have been honorably discharged therefrom, and who are now or who may hereafter be suffering from a mental or physical dis-

ability of a permanent character, not the result of their own vicious habits, which incapacitates them from the performance of manual labor in such a degree as to render them unable to earn a support, shall, upon making due proof of the fact according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the list of invalid pensioners of the United States and be entitled to receive a pension not exceeding \$12 per month and not less than \$6 per month, proportioned to the degree of inability to earn support: and such pension shall commence from the date of the filing of the application in the pension office, after the passage of this act upon proof that the disability then existed, and shall continue during the existence of the same: *Provided*, That persons who are now receiving pensions under existing laws, or whose claims are pending in the pension office, may, by application to the Commissioner of Pensions, in such form as he may prescribe, showing themselves entitled thereto, receive the benefits of this act; and nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent any pensioner thereunder from prosecuting his claim and receiving his pension under any other general or special act: *Provided*, however, that no person shall receive more than one pension for the same period: *And provided further*, that rank in the service shall not be considered in applications filed under this act.

SEC. 3. That if any officer or enlisted man who served ninety days or more in the army or navy of the United States during the late war of the rebellion, and who was honorably discharged has died, or shall hereafter die, leaving a widow without other means of support than her daily labor, or minor children under the age of 16 years, such widow shall, upon due proof of her husband's death, without proving his death to be the result of his army service, be placed on the pension-roll from the date of the application therefor under this act, at the rate of \$3 per month during her widowhood and shall also be paid \$2 per month for each child of such officer or enlisted man under 16 years of age, and in case of the death or remarriage of the widow, leaving a child or children of such officer or enlisted man under the age of 16 years, such pension shall be paid such child or children until the age of 16: *Provided*, that in case a minor child is insane, idiotic, or otherwise permanently helpless, the pension shall continue during the life of said child, or during the period of such disability, and this proviso shall apply to all pensions heretofore granted or hereafter to be granted under this or any former statute, and such pensions shall commence from the date of application therefor after the passage of this act: *And provided further*, That said widow shall have married said soldier prior to the passage of this act.

SEC. 4. That no agent, attorney, or other person engaged in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under the provisions of this act shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, demand, receive, or retain for such services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting such a claim a sum greater than \$10, which sum shall be payable

only upon the order of the Commissioner of Pensions by the Pension Agent making payment of the pension allowed, and any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section, or who shall wrongfully withhold from a pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of a pension or claim allowed or due such pensioner or claimant, under this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every such offense, be fined not exceeding \$500, or be imprisoned at hard labor not exceeding two years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

#### THE CHRISTADELPHIANS.

WAUKESHA, Wis.  
Who and what were the "Christadelphians," a religious sect?  
FRED WAEDROBE.

*Answer*.—The Christadelphians are an obscure sect, whose founder was a Baptist minister named Richard Watts. Their belief is that Christians everywhere have left the original faith, and that the Christadelphians themselves are the only true representatives of primitive Christianity. Their churches are "ecclesias," and they use very coarse language with reference to many of the evangelical denominations. They are believers in what is known as Arrianism, and they hold that men are not created immortal, but become immortal by spiritual regeneration. Not very much is generally known of the Christadelphians, and they are not usually classed with other denominations in the annual or other reviews.

CHICAGO, Ill., July 25, 1890.—*To the Editor*.—Being a constant reader of your very valuable paper, and being also in the habit of perusing all the reading matter therein contained, it is but natural that your budget of answers to inquiries received each week should attract and for a while hold my attention, as in that column always appears very valuable as well as instructive and interesting information. In a recent issue (given above) was a brief reply to an inquiry made by a Waukesha (Wis.) gentleman with respect to a religious sect calling themselves "Christadelphians." Several years ago, the writer occasionally attended the Sunday services of this denomination in an Eastern city, and in that way learned considerable of the inside teachings of the creed they claim to represent.

The most able exponent of the Christadelphian doctrine in the present generation was the late Dr. John Thomas, of New York City. He was a man of deep and comprehensive religious knowledge, being thoroughly conversant with the dead languages. He was completely saturated with the creed he headed, and his eloquence in its behalf, besides finding vocal utterance in the form of public lectures and congregational meetings, was in a measure immortalized in the productions of

his able, fluent, and versatile pen. One of his books, the name of which I do not recall, ranks with these "Brothers in Christ," second only to the Bible itself.

They are directly opposed to the theory of immortality as universally held by all the better known religious denominations.

The future punishment of the sinner after death by the infliction of physical pain or torture is foreign to their teachings. "Why," ask they, "should God, who is the perfect incarnation of gentleness, mercy, and goodness, condemn the objects of His creation to never-ending physical punishment?" Their belief in this particular is embodied in the scriptural passage which very succinctly and clearly says: "The wages of sin is death." Future punishment, they assert, is nothing more or less than the departure of life—which is the soul—from the body, the body itself being consigned to the grave, while the soul or spirit returns to the Divine power that gave it.

The true Christian does not receive his reward in Heaven, as is so commonly preached, but, on the contrary, his reward is embodied in the words of the Psalmist, who says: "The righteous shall inherit the earth." The sect believe that all rewards the Christians of this life shall receive in the "hereafter" will be conferred upon the second advent of Christ into this world, which will occur at the time of the millenium. Then will He judge the Christian and the sinner. Those adjudged by the Savior as worthy of Divine gifts shall reign forever on this earth with Himself, while the sinner shall repose everlastingly in the earthy receptacle into which his body was placed with due worldly obsequies. Everlasting oblivion, they believe, is ample punishment for the sins of this life, while perennial residence by the side of the Savior, they say, is certainly a sufficient compensation to the Christian for his strict conformity, in this life, to the Lord's precepts as contained in Scriptures.

The sect is represented in all the large cities of this country, and has a following on the other side of the Atlantic. Numerically they are not strong, but in loyalty to their creed they are as giants. G. C. J.

#### HOSPITALS.

##### EXETER, III.

Where and when was the first hospital for the sick built, and by whom? L. H.

*Answer.*—It is doubtful whether any charitable institutions for the care of the sick existed previous to the introduction of Christianity. The Bethesda mentioned in the Scriptures—the name signifying a house of charity—is thought to have been nothing more than a collection of sheds built around the pool, to whose waters miraculous healing powers were

attributed. The Romans had some provision for the sick and wounded of their armies in the "valetudinarium" of their camps, but very little is known about this. The first hospital on record was founded by the Emperor Valens in Cæsarea, 370-80 A. D., and later a similar institution was built in Rome by Fabiola, a lady friend of St. Jerome. The origin of hospitals, as we now know them, may be found in the arrangements made in the monasteries of the middle ages for the care of the sick and poor. Every monastery had its infirmary, in which not only were sick and convalescent patients received, but the aged, weak, and blind were also taken in. The earliest distinct record of the building of a hospital in England is in the life of Lanfranc, archbishop of Canterbury, who in 1080 founded two, one for leprosy and one for ordinary diseases. The establishments for the sick remained in the hands of the clergy until the Reformation.

#### BULGARIA AND PRINCE ALEXANDER.

##### CHICAGO.

State how Alexander I., of Bulgaria, lost his throne a few years ago. Did he resign, or was he forced to "resign" by Russian conspirators? Was he forcibly taken or "abducted" from his throne by the Russians, and, while in their power, compelled to renounce or relinquish his title and kingship? F. W.

*Answer.*—Bulgaria became, by the treaty of Berlin, signed July 13, 1878, a tributary principality under the suzerainty of the Sultan of Turkey. It was guaranteed a Christian government and a National militia, and was to be ruled by a Prince chosen by the people and confirmed by the Sultan, with the consent of the powers that were parties to the Berlin treaty. One of the important conditions of the treaty was that no member of any of the reigning houses of the great European powers was eligible. Prince Alexander of Battenberg, was, April 29, 1879, elected hereditary prince by the National Assembly, or Sobranje, as it is called. He is first cousin of the Czar, and was an active officer in the Russian army previous to his election to the Bulgarian throne. Eastern Roumelia, closely related to Bulgaria, underwent a revolution in 1885, the government was overthrown, the governor deposed and sent out of the province, and the union of Roumelia with Bulgaria was proclaimed. Prince Alexander, of Bulgaria, accepted without delay the invitation of the chiefs of the revolution to put himself at their head, and he appointed his representatives in the province. Soon after, the administrations of Roumelia and Bulgaria were assimilated by order of Prince Alexander, and Sofia became the center of government of the united provinces. In April, 1886, the Sultan recog-

nized the changes that had been made. This course on the part of Bulgaria caused Serbia, because Bulgaria's action disturbed the equilibrium of the Balkan States, to mobilize her army, for the purpose of seizing an equivalent territory in Macedonia or of compelling Bulgaria to relinquish her newly acquired province. Turkey prevented Serbia from completing her scheme. Then Servian troops invaded Bulgaria, and the Bulgarians defeated them at Slivnitsa, but were, through the hostile attitude of Austria, prevented from entering Serbia. As the reign of Alexander progressed, he became more and more impressed with the theory and spirit of Western European ideas in government and resisted the agents of Russia who treated Bulgaria as a Russian province, and the prince as an appointee of the Czar. Alexander was encouraged in his attitude by Great Britain. The breach widened between Prince Alexander and Russia. The Czar ordered home the Russian officers in Bulgaria, and the Prince was treated as a rebellious subject and ignominiously dismissed from the Russian army. The Russian Emperor, after the peace of April 5, 1886, continued to pursue Alexander with an animosity that was personal and apparently implacable. The powers—Great Britain, Russia, France, Italy, Austria, and Germany—had many diplomatic exchanges before they agreed upon the way in which Eastern Roumelia was to be governed, the term of the governor general, etc. Russia at last demanded that the governor general's term should be limited to five years; that a renomination should come from the Porte and receive the approval of all the powers, and this was adopted; only, however, after a very vigorous protest by Alexander. The agreement of April 5, 1886, was finally accepted by Prince Alexander. The peace between Bulgaria and Serbia was more difficult to obtain, as the latter was unusually warlike and long refused to accede to the terms of peace proposed. In June, 1886, the Sobranje met, and Prince Alexander, in the speech from the throne, expressed his delight that the union of North and South Bulgaria was an accomplished fact. He had taken a decisive step to render the union more complete than a mere personal union in calling a common National Assembly. Turkey, at the instigation of Russia, called Prince Alexander to account for his utterances and course. He replied that while he had to submit the decisions of the conference of Ambassadors at Constantinople to the representatives of both Bulgarias, he had summoned them to meet together as a matter of expediency. Alexander was indefatigable in bringing order out of chaos and in assimilating the internal organi-

zations of both North and South Bulgaria. Under the influence of Russia, Turkey objected to the political and administrative unification of the Bulgarias. Meanwhile, the Russian intriguers were active in Bulgaria. On the night of Aug. 20 a detachment of troops took possession of the palace and seized Prince Alexander and his Prime Minister. The day after, the leaders of the pro-Russian party, who had organized the conspiracy, announced Alexander's abdication and formed a provisional government. The Prince was compelled to sign his abdication on the threat that those in whose custody he was would shoot him, and their leveled revolvers emphasized their threats. It was announced throughout the country that the Prince had voluntarily abdicated. The revolutionists resorted to all the usual means to accomplish their purpose, and at last saw Alexander leave the country he had done so much to develop. But a counter-revolution was begun. Alexander was restored, but the course of Austria as well as Russia led him to feel that so long as he remained in Bulgaria he would be the object and victim of Russian intrigue. When he had considered the situation, and felt convinced that his stay meant bloodshed without limit, and his retirement meant probable peace, his course was open and he voluntarily abdicated, and retired from Bulgaria.

#### THE DRUMMER BOY OF MISSION RIDGE.

CHICAGO.

Who was the "Drummer Boy of Mission Ridge," and who wrote the poem by that name?

S. H. M.

*Answer.*—The poem referred to was written by Mrs. Kate B. Sherwood. The incident commemorated by it occurred at the battle of Mission Ridge, Nov. 25, 1863. The drum corps being ordered to the rear in the engagement, John S. Kountz, a lad of 17, threw away his drum, snatched a musket from the hand of a fallen soldier, and took his place in the ranks. He was severely wounded in the first assault and was left on the field, the Federal forces being at that time beaten back.

#### THE HOLY STONE.

CHICAGO.

Where is the "holy stone" of Ireland, and why is it so called?

STUDENT.

*Answer.*—This name is given to a famous stone possessed at Ardmore, in County Waterford, Ireland. The legend asserts that this floated over the ocean from Rome to St. Patrick, bringing to him his sacred vestments, a bell for his church, and a lighted candle for the mass. It is now held sacred to the memory of the saint. It is upon the sea-shore, is a large stone, weighing perhaps some four or five tons, and is much visited by pilgrims.



At low tide, when only the lower part of the stone can be seen, these visitors go around it several times on their bare knees, and finally, lying flat, creep through a hollow of the sand that has been made under it.

#### THE THIRTEENTH, FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH AMENDMENTS.

MR. MORRIS, III.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop give the history of the adoption of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, stating what States ratified each, what States at first rejected and afterwards ratified any of the three amendments, also what States ratified and afterwards resolved to recall their ratification, and tell why they were not permitted to do so?

F. W. HANAWALL.

*Answer.*—The thirteenth amendment was introduced into Congress in 1864. Its purpose was to supplement the emancipation proclamation, and make permanent and general the abolition of slavery. It passed the Senate, April 8, 1864, by 38 to 6, but failed in the House, June 15, the vote standing 95 to 66, less than the necessary two-thirds to pass a Constitutional amendment. The re-election of President Lincoln in November of that year encouraging the advocates of the amendment, the vote of the House was reconsidered Jan. 31, 1865, and the amendment was finally passed by a vote of 119 to 56. When presented to the States, both Delaware and Kentucky, the only States in which slavery was still lawful, rejected it; Texas refused to act upon it, and Alabama and Mississippi ratified it on conditions only. But the States of Illinois, Rhode Island, Michigan, Maryland, New York, West Virginia, Maine, Kansas, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio, Missouri, Nevada, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Vermont, Tennessee, Arkansas, Connecticut, New Hampshire, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia, in all twenty-six States, accepted the amendment, and it was declared a part of the Constitution of the United States Dec. 18, 1865. Subsequently New Jersey, Oregon, California, Iowa, and Florida ratified the amendment also. The fourteenth amendment was drawn up by a joint committee of the two houses, of which Mr. Thaddeus Stevens was chairman. It was an essential part of the plan of reconstruction favored by the radical party in Congress. It passed the Senate June 8, 1866, by a vote of 33 to 11, and the House June 13 by a vote of 138 to 36. Delaware, Kentucky, and Maryland rejected this amendment, and California refused to act upon it. Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia rejected the amendment at their legislative sessions between Nov. 9, 1866, and Feb. 6, 1867. Congress passed the reconstruction act (March 2,

1867) declaring that the State governments that had been established in these States were provisional only, and that they could not be counted as States of the Union until they had accepted the amendment. Subsequently the Legislatures of these ten States successively ratified the amendment and were recognized by Congress. New Jersey and Ohio had adopted ratification resolutions, but rescinded them some months later. July 20, 1868, Secretary Seward announced conditionally that if the ratifications of New Jersey and Ohio were to be considered as binding, the amendment had been accepted by thirty States and was part of the Constitution. On the next day a resolution was passed by Congress declaring that the amendment had been lawfully adopted and ordering the Secretary of State to proclaim its ratification unconditionally, which Mr. Seward did July 28. Subsequently three other States accepted this amendment. The fifteenth amendment was adopted by the House as a joint resolution Jan. 30, 1869, and after much discussion in both houses came to a final vote Feb. 26 and was passed in the Senate by a vote of 89 to 13, and in the House by 144 to 44. This amendment was not acted upon by Tennessee, was rejected by California, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, and Oregon. Ohio and Georgia at first rejected it, but afterward ratified it. New York rescinded its ratification. When Secretary Fish proclaimed the amendment in force March 30, 1870, he mentioned that a notice had been filed in the State Department that New York "claimed" to have rescinded its ratification, but said nothing further about it, and the rescinding of the ratification was, apparently, not accepted.

#### THE EPWORTH LEAGUE.

ONEIDA, Kan.  
Give a history of the Epworth League. What is the organization intended to accomplish?

C. SHINN.

*Answer.*—The following facts concerning this new organization were given to us by one of its members: The Epworth League is a young people's society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Though it has been in existence but a little over a year, it is now generally absorbing all the other young people's societies in the church, besides greatly strengthening the church among the young people. Before the Epworth League was formed, the young people of the Methodist Church were divided among a half dozen different societies, separated geographically and designed for different objects. The Young People's Methodist Alliance, the pioneer society, was started about eight years ago on the old camp-ground at Desplaines, Rock River

Conference, and flourished chiefly in the Western and Northwestern States. The Alliance made prominent Christian experience, and trained young people in revival methods, but a fatal defect to its general growth was felt to be the ironclad pledge which many young Methodists hesitated to take. The Oxford League extended over the Eastern States and sought to develop the young people symmetrically, but emphasized literary culture to such a degree that it was felt by some thoughtful workers that the Chautauqua study encroached on the spiritual work. Besides these more widely extended societies were the Ohio Alliance and the Christian League. When the societies commenced to cross one another's territory and pastors and people were in doubt, a convention was called of delegates from all the societies, which met May 14, 1889, at Cleveland. The result of the conference was the new society with a new name, the Epworth League, named in honor of the rectory of the father of the Wesleys. The success of the society has been phenomenal, and having the indorsement of bishops, pastors, and editors it does not seem chimerical to anticipate the membership soon reaching half a million young people. The work of each chapter is divided into six departments, Christian work, mercy and help, literary work, entertainment, correspondence, and finance. The President is the supervising officer, who is assisted by four vice presidents, a secretary and a treasurer, each of whom has charge of one department, with the assistance of a committee of six. The society has now 3,400 chapters and a membership of 200,000. It is represented by a weekly paper, the *Epworth Herald*, published in Chicago.

#### HORNBLLENDE.

DARLINGTON, WIS.

What is hornblende, and where is it found?

H. N.

*Answer.*—Hornblende is the name given to a mineral which forms an important part in the formation of certain rocks. It is formed of silica, which is combined with variable portions of magnesia, lime, iron, alumina, soda and fluorine. It is found in granite, syenite and other igneous rocks which contain free silica or quartz. It has two tolerably well marked varieties—common hornblende and basaltic hornblende. The first named variety is generally green or black, occasionally it is brown or gray. It frequently crystallizes in long, slender prisms, but sometimes it is massive, fibrous and radiating. Basaltic hornblende is generally brownish-black to pitch-black, and the crystals are short and well formed. Smaragdite is a peculiar grass-green

form of hornblende. Specimens of hornblende of perfect crystalline structure are often used for the manufacture of ornaments.

#### THE "APOSTLES' CREED."

ASHLAND, ILL.

Will Our Curiosity Shop tell when and by whom the "Apostles' Creed" was written? By whom the churches is it used?

S. SINGLAIR.

*Answer.*—It was held by many early writers that this creed was composed by the apostles themselves, who, during their stay at Jerusalem soon after our Lord's ascension, agreed upon it—under the guidance and direction of the Holy Spirit—to be adopted as a rule of faith and as a mark by which they could know friends from foes. Rufinus, a historian of the fifth century, gives the traditional history of the creed as follows: "There was an ancient tradition that the apostles, being about to depart from Jerusalem, first settled a rule for their future preaching, lest, after they were separated from each other, they should expound different doctrines to the persons whom they invited to the Christian faith. Wherefore, being all assembled together and filled with the Holy Ghost, they composed this short rule of their preaching, each one contributing his sentence, and left it as a rule to be given to all believers." Another writer pretends to tell what article of the creed was contributed by each apostle. Peter began with the words "I believe in God the Father Almighty," to which John added "maker of heaven and earth." James said "and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord," and Andrew gave the words "Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary." Philip's words were "suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried." Thomas said "He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;" Bartholomew, "He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty," to which Matthew added "from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead." James, the son of Alphaeus, said, "I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church," to which Simon Zelotes added "the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins;" Jude, the brother of James, "the resurrection of the body;" Matthias, "the life everlasting." This writer takes it as proof of his theory that the creed was called "symbolum apostolicum," taking the word symbolum as derived from the Greek "symbolai," meaning contributions brought together to make up a common whole, whereas it is more correctly derived from an altogether different word, symbolon, meaning a token or sign by which a person or thing is known. It is, in truth, however, quite impossible now to ascertain the actual authorship of the

apostles' creed. There is no doubt that it is very ancient, for it is given as a whole, essentially as we now have it, by Ambrose, an historical writer of the third century. But there is no mention in the book of the Acts of the Apostles, or in the writings of those who immediately followed them, of any gathering of these holy men for the purpose of formulating a creed, and had there been such a meeting it most probably would have been recorded. But the creed has been accepted, by all orthodox churches, as entitled to the name given to it, because, as the learned Dr. Schaff says: "Though it is not in form the production of the Apostles, it is a faithful compend of their doctrines, and comprehends the leading articles of the faith in the triune God and his revelation from the creation to the life everlasting, in sublime simplicity, in insurpassable brevity, in the most beautiful order, and with liturgical solemnity; and to this day it is the common bond of Greek, Roman and evangelical Christendom." As to its use in the churches of the world, it was not introduced into liturgies at first, but all admitted into the church by baptism were required to subscribe to it. About the tenth century the Greek Church in Antioch was the first to use it in public worship; the Roman Church then introduced it, whence it was adopted by the Church of England at the reformation. The Westminster divines attached it to their catechism. It finds place, also, with the decalogue and the Lord's prayer, in the catechisms of the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches. It is used in the baptismal confession in the Greek, Roman, English, Reformed Lutheran, Methodist Episcopal and Protestant Episcopal, and other churches. In fact, no other creed but this is used in baptism by any church. One phrase only, "He descended into hell," is omitted in some of the forms used.

## PALOS.

CASTOWN, Ohio.

Tell something of the town of Palos, Spain. What was its importance when Columbus sailed from its harbor?

T. O. H.

*Answer.*—Palos is a town of the province of Andalusia, Spain, situated on the shore of the River Tinto, where it empties into the Gulf of Cadiz. It has a population of about 1,200 souls. It was a place of even less importance in the time of Columbus, apparently. It is spoken of as "the little seaport of Palos." The sole reason why it was chosen as the starting point of the expedition, was because at that time it owed the government some money. Some smuggling operations having been a short time before detected at that port, it was fined heavily, and because it could not pay the fine, it was con-

demned to furnish to the crown one year's service of two caravels, armed and manned. When, therefore, Ferdinand and Isabella had promised to aid in fitting out an expedition to go in search of a western route to the Indies, advantage was taken of this existing obligation, and Palos was called upon to furnish two vessels for the voyage. Had it not been that this existing debt of the town of Palos offered the sovereigns an opportunity of saving a part of the necessary cost of this expedition which they had undertaken, a seaport of much greater note would certainly have been chosen for its starting point. That this port was a very small place seems to be further evidenced by the statement that the Pinzon brothers, who aided Columbus in fitting the third vessel needed, and who accompanied him on his voyage, "lived in the best house in Palos." They were well-to-do mariners, it is true, but apparently were by no means possessed of great wealth.

## THE MUTINY OF THE BOUNTY.

MONTELO, Wis.

Tell the story of the mutiny of the ship *Bounty* and the Pitcairn Islanders.

E. A. BASS.

*Answer.*—In December, 1787, the ship *Bounty* set sail from England, commissioned by the British government to convey young bread-fruit trees from the island of Tahiti to the West Indies. It was in command of Lieutenant Bligh, a navigator who had been with the famous Captain Cook on several of his voyages of discovery. The vessel reached Tahiti in the early autumn of 1788, and as that was not the proper season for transplanting, it was obliged to lie there six months. During this time the crew had nothing to do but to lounge around among the natives and to cultivate a spirit of discontent. April 4, 1789, the *Bounty* set sail for Jamaica, with 1,015 young bread-fruit trees and a number of other tropical plants. April 28 a mutiny broke out in the crew. The Captain, with eighteen men who refused to take part in the revolt, was put into an open boat with a supply of provisions, and the mutineers, twenty-five in number, returned to Tahiti. Here one of the crew named Fletcher Christian, having induced eight of his fellow sailors, six native men, and twelve native women to come with him, put to sea with the vessel, and these were not heard of for so many years that they were supposed to be lost. In the meantime Lieutenant Bligh had reached the island of Timor—after drifting about on the ocean for forty-six days—and thence had returned to England, where he made public the story of the mutiny, exciting general sympathy. An English vessel was, therefore, sent to Tahiti

to arrest the mutineers, and the fourteen men who had remained there were all taken in chains to England. Four of these perished on the voyage. The remaining ten were tried, and three of them were executed, the others being pardoned. Christian and his companions were not heard of until 1808, when a New England captain, on a sealing voyage in the Pacific, anchored at an island, known as Pitcairn Island, from the name of an officer who first sighted it, with Carteret on a voyage in 1787. The island had been thought to be uninhabited, and Captain Folger was therefore much astonished to see a canoe with two youths of light-brown complexion approach his vessel, and address him in the English language. It was learned on inquiry that these were sons of the lost crew of the *Bounty*. The mutineers, having landed on the island, and finding it beautiful and fertile, decided to take possession of it, and in order to cut off all traces of themselves they ran their vessel ashore and burned her. The white men then took the Tahitian women as their wives and made the men slaves. The beautiful island, lovely enough for paradise, was turned into a perfect hades by the evil passions of the men. Treachery, jealousy, drunkenness, rage, and murder fill the story of the first years of the colony. The Tahitian men rebelled, and the white men put them all to death, but in the struggle several of the Englishmen were killed also. After this some of the others died, and some perished in the affray, so that by 1800 all the white men were dead, except one Alexander Smith, who found himself the sole guardian of a large number of women and children. His responsibility brought this man, who had been one of the worst of the crew, to his sober senses. He ransacked the ship's chests, found some books, among them a Bible and a prayer-book, and then set himself to work to learn afresh and to teach the others the principles of right living. He held services on Sunday by reading the forms of prayer to the others, he organized a school and taught the children to read and write and he drew up a simple code of laws for the observance of the colony. Captain Folger found the community growing up under the instruction of this man in honest, temperate, religious habits. After the island had been discovered Smith changed his name to John Adams to avoid arrest for mutiny. No attempt was made to take him, however, though subsequently several English vessels touched at the island. He died there peacefully March 29, 1829. The subsequent history of the Pitcairn islanders can be easily summarized. Through fear of drought the little community—then numbering eighty-seven persons—all

removed in 1830 to Tahiti, but liking neither the morals nor the climate of the place they went back in 1831 to their own island. Hardly had they settled in their old ways when an adventurer named Joshua Hill came to the island, claiming to be sent thither by the British government, and tyrannized over the people unmercifully. He was taken away by an English vessel in 1838. In 1856 the whole population of Pitcairn—sixty married persons and 184 young persons and children—removed to Norfolk Island, but in 1858 part of the people returned.

#### GOVERNORS OF MISSISSIPPI.

BUCHANAN, Mich.

Would be glad to have a list of the Governors of Mississippi, from Territorial times to the present. B.

*Answer.*—The following table gives the information desired. The Territory of Mississippi, then comprising all of Alabama and Mississippi between the thirty-first and thirty-fifth parallels, north latitude, was organized in 1798:

#### TERRITORIAL GOVERNORS.

Winthrop Sargent.....	1798-1802
William C. Claiborne.....	1802-1805
Robert Williams.....	1805-1809
David Holmes.....	1809-1817

#### STATE GOVERNORS.

David Holmes.....	1817-1819
George Poindexter.....	1819-1821
Walter Leake.....	1821-1826
David Holmes.....	1826-1827
Gerard C. Brandon.....	1827-1831
Abraham M. Scott.....	1831-1833
Hiram G. Runnels.....	1833-1835
Charles Lyuch.....	1835-1837
Alexander G. McNutt.....	1837-1841
Tilghman M. Tucker.....	1841-1843
Albert G. Brown.....	1843-1848
Joseph W. Matthews.....	1848-1850
John A. Quitman.....	1850-1851
John J. Guion (acting).....	1851-1851
James Whitfield.....	1851-1852
Henry S. Foote.....	1852-1854
John J. McRae.....	1854-1858
William McWillie.....	1858-1860
John J. Pettus.....	1860-1862
Jacob Thompson.....	1862-1864
Charles Clarke.....	1864-1865
William L. Sharkey (provisional).....	1865-1866
Benjamin G. Humphreys.....	1866-1870
James L. Alcorn.....	1870-1871
Ridgely C. Powers.....	1871-1874
Adelbert Ames.....	1874-1876
John M. Stone.....	1876-1882
Robert Lowry.....	1882-1890
John M. Stone.....	1890-

#### JOHN WILLOCK NOBLE.

BELTON, Texas.

Give a sketch of the life of General Noble, Secretary of the Interior. S. M. BOLEY.

*Answer.*—John Willock Noble was born in Lancaster, Ohio, Oct. 26, 1831. He was educated at Miami University and Yale. He studied law, began its practice at St. Louis, Mo., and afterward settled at Keokuk, Iowa. At the breaking out of the war he enlisted in the Third Iowa Cavalry and became adjutant of his regiment. He was made a colonel in 1865 and at the close of the war was breveted brigadier general. After the war he resumed the practice of law at St. Louis and served as

United States District Attorney by appointment of President Johnson. March 5, 1889, he was appointed by President Harrison as Secretary of the Interior.

#### OUR NATIONAL DEBT.

CHICAGO.  
Give some information as to the history of the National debt of the United States, how it was incurred, and to whom it is now due.

T. A. SICKLER.

*Answer.*—The history of the National debt of the United States is divided by writers on the subject into five periods, the first extending from Sept. 5, 1774, to March 4, 1789. The debt during that period was incurred by several issues of paper money by the Continental Congress, amounting to \$241,552,780; a subsidy of \$1,815,000 granted to the colonies by the King of France, and \$6,352,500 in French loans; a subsidy of \$181,500 from the King of Spain, and loans of private bankers amounting to \$174,017; also loans made in Holland to the amount of \$3,600,000. To these are usually added the certificates of indebtedness given by the American Government to French officers who served in the Continental army. The provision for paying this debt was one of the most serious problems brought before the new government. The payment of the foreign debt was effected by securing further loans from Holland, and the domestic debt was funded at a lower rate of interest. The second period of debt-making by the government extended from March, 1789, to Jan. 1, 1812. During this time the debt incurred by the Government amounted in the aggregate to \$109,450,183.71. This included a loan of \$9,400,000 obtained from Holland, over \$10,000,000 in temporary loans from banks, the refunded Revolutionary debt of the General Government, and debts incurred by the colonies during the war, also the balance due on the French debt. During this time the Government was paying its old debts of principal and interest, and its credit was continually strengthening. So successful was the general management of the country's finances, that though, during what is called the third period, from Jan. 1, 1812, to Jan. 1, 1837, we had an expensive war, and incurred debt to the amount of \$153,565,815.70, the Government was, in 1836, virtually out of debt and had a surplus in the Treasury. During the fourth period, from Jan. 1, 1837, to March 1, 1861, the amount of loans negotiated by the government amounted to \$232,024,592.63, incurred by the issue of notes for the general and special appropriations of the government. The fifth period in the history of the debt began with the outbreak of the War for the Union continued to the present time. During this period the great expenses of the war

swelled the debt to an enormous total. Between 1861 and 1880 the country incurred a debt of \$10,144,589,408.69. The principal of the debt reached its highest point in August, 1865, when it stood at \$2,844,649,626, and though there has been a steady decrease since that time, the principal did not fall below the thousand-million dollar point until 1889. The net debt June 30, 1890, was given as \$988,175,122. As to the ownership of the National debt, it is estimated that about \$300,000,000 of it is held abroad; the rest is in the hands of individuals and corporations in the various States, the Eastern States being much the largest holders of the bonds, as might be expected.

#### CENTRIPETAL AND CENTRIFUGAL FORCES.

GRINSTON, Mo.

Give an explanation of the origin of centripetal and centrifugal forces, as acting upon the earth and other bodies of the solar system. I. B. D.

*Answer.*—The doctrine of the two great forces which govern the movements of bodies—known in natural philosophy as central forces—has for its starting point the first law of motion, which is that a body not acted upon by some external force will remain at rest or move uniformly in a straight line. If a body in motion, therefore, changes its velocity or direction, it is plain that some force must be acting upon it. By the law of inertia, a body which has been set in motion in a straight line will continue to move in that line forever, unless acted upon by some force outside itself. If this force be one which tends to draw the body continually toward a center, the resultant motion is that of a curve. At each point of its path the body tends to recede from the curve, through the action of inertia. We have thus the two great laws which control all the movements of systems, worlds and suns, that of gravity, which acts to draw all bodies toward a center, and inertia, which would keep each moving in a straight line from the first impulse which started its motion in space. The names given to these forces, are centrifugal, which signifies flying from the center, and centripetal, or tending toward the center. But it should be noted that the centrifugal force is not, like the centripetal, an impressed or external force acting on the body, but is simply the assertion of the body's inertia under the circumstances produced by the centripetal force. A simple illustration of the action of forces in the solar system is given by a ball attached to a string and whirled rapidly, the end of the string being held by the hand. The string represents the force of gravity, holding the earth and planets to their curved orbits around a common center. If

this force were destroyed, as in the breaking of the string holding the ball, the body, through the inertia of its acquired velocity, would fly off into space at a tangent to its orbit. Centrifugal action, or tendency to recede from the center, is increased with velocity, which may be shown by twirling the ball so rapidly, in our familiar illustration, that the string breaks, and the ball flies off. There are mathematical laws which govern the action of these forces in the movements of the heavenly bodies, and prove that by their mutual action the equipoise of celestial motion can be preserved forever.

#### THE ACADIANS.

MASONVILLE, Iowa.

Tell us about the Acadians; what they were and why they came to this country? Where did they come from and where did they first settle and why did they remove to Louisiana? Who was Evangeline? . E. S. H.

*Answer.*—The name Acadie, applied to the peninsula of Nova Scotia, is first used in the commission given by the French King to the Sieur de Monte, who took a colony out to that country in 1604. The name Acadie is generally supposed to have been derived from the Micmac word Kady, meaning a place; but some writers take it from Aquaddy, the Indian name of the pollock, a large fish common on the Maine and Nova Scotia coasts. For eight years the French endeavored to secure a permanent settlement at Port Royal, but were finally driven out by the colonists of Virginia. The French claimed this country by the right of discoveries made by Verrazani and Cartier. The English urged a prior claim based on the discovery of the coast by the Cabots in 1497. In 1621 Sir William Alexander obtained a grant of the entire peninsula and called it Nova Scotia. He attempted to colonize the country on a large scale, but by this time the French had effected a number of small settlements near the coast, and so many difficulties resulted from the attempt to take up the territory which they claimed that the English and Scotch colonists withdrew. In 1654 Cromwell sent a strong force to compel the French settlers to acknowledge the English rule, but in 1667 England ceded the country to France by the treaty of Breda. The English settlers, however, never recognized this cession and continued to harass their French neighbors until, in 1718, France renounced all right to the colony. The French settlers, who were known by the name of Acadians, were generally a peaceful, agricultural people, and on their taking the oath of fidelity to the English King, though they would not take the oath of allegiance to the colonial government, were allowed to remain, were exempted from bearing arms against their own countrymen in the event of a war with France, and

were permitted to hold their own religion, and to have magistrates of their own selection. They were known as "the neutral French." About this time other colonies came from France and settled Cape Breton, and built the town and fort of Louisburg. These instigated the Indians to attacks upon the English, and the blame of these attacks was laid upon the neutral French, though most historians doubt whether the latter had any share in this offense, as they were a simple, kindly people. But by their peculiar position, living in the colony but refusing to aid it against its enemies, they embarrassed the local government very much, and at a consultation of the Governor and his council, in 1755, it was determined to summarily remove them. An order was therefore passed for their immediate departure and dispersion in the other provinces. It is possible that there was some excuse in the situation for this tyrannical order, but there was certainly none for the manner in which it was put in force. The people were compelled to give up all their property, their homes, and their crops were burned before their eyes, and they were hurried away in such haste that very few families and friends could remain together. From this history our correspondent can answer his questions categorically, thus: The Acadians were settlers in the New World, called by this name because they had given their province the name of Acadia. They came to this continent from their native home, France, for the purpose of making new homes here. They settled in the country now known as Nova Scotia, and when they were driven from there a part of them made their way to Louisiana, because that territory was then a possession of France. Evangeline was an imaginary character, the heroine of a poem by Longfellow on the sufferings of the exiled Acadians.

OWEN MEREDITH.

STELLA, Neb.

Give a sketch of Robert, Lord Lytton (Owen Meredith). J. B.

*Answer.*—Edward Robert Bulwer-Lytton was born Nov. 8, 1831, the son of the novelist, Edward Bulwer-Lytton. He was educated at Harrow, and entered the diplomatic service at the age of 18. He was first an attaché at Washington, then served in the embassies at Florence, Paris, and other European cities, becoming consul, then secretary of legation, and at last, in 1874, was sent as minister to Lisbon. During this time he had gained more fame as a poet than as a diplomat. In January, 1876, he was appointed Viceroy of India by Mr. Disraeli. His administration was not altogether successful, and in 1880 he resigned his office and returned to England.

Among the many works of Lord Lytton may be mentioned "Clytemnestra and Other Poems" (1859); "Lucille" (1860); "The Ring of Amasis" (1863); "Chronicles and Characters" (1868); "Fables in Song" (1874); "Glenaveril" (1885). He has also published part of an extended life of his father, on which he has employed his leisure hours for some years.

#### THE HATFIELD-M'COY FEUD.

CHELSEA, Kan.  
Please give a history of the Hatfield-McCoy feud in Kentucky. F. R. B.

*Answer.*—Of the parties to this feud the Hatfields—three brothers, Anse, Valentine, and Ellison, with their families, including several grown sons and sons-in-law—lived on the West Virginia bank of the Tug River, in the mountainous and sparsely settled county of Logan. "Devil" Anse dealt in groceries and moonshine whisky. Just over the river, in Pike County, Kentucky, lay the farm of Randolph McCoy, the father of seven sons and seven daughters. Other McCoy and Hatfields lived on either side of the river, but with the exception of Jeff McCoy, a brother of Randolph, none of these later were involved in the quarrel. Anse Hatfield and three of the McCoy brothers served in the same company in the Confederate service during the war, and entirely friendly relations existed between the two families until 1881, when Johnston Hatfield, a son of the grocer whose brutal traits of character had won for him the nickname of "Devil," came to court Rosanna McCoy, a daughter of Randolph McCoy. The father of the girl opposed the match because of the wild, roistering character of the young man, but the young couple defied parental indignation and eloped. After a little more than a year, however, the unhappy young woman came back to the home of her parents. Indictments had been found by the Pike County grand jury, at about this time, against Johnston Hatfield for selling whisky without a license and other offences, and Talbott McCoy, at his own request, was invested with power to serve the warrant. He arrested the offender, but a party of Hatfields arrived, waylaid him and rescued the prisoner. A few days after this, while an election was being held on the McCoy side of the river, a quarrel arose between Talbott McCoy and one of the younger Hatfields about a debt. Ellison Hatfield, who was a giant in size and muscle, joined in the fight, also several others of the McCoy family. Pistols and knives were used and a number of persons were wounded, Ellison Hatfield fatally. The three McCoy brothers implicated in the fight were immediately arrested and sent to jail in Pikeville. They were overtaken by a party headed by "Devil" Anse Hatfield, and

put under guard in a school-house to await the result of the injuries received by Ellison Hatfield. The next day the wounded man died, and the three McCoy boys were put through a mock trial, convicted of murder and then shot. This affair occurred in August, 1883. Five years passed before another killing took place, though in this time the feud had in no sense abated. The McCoy family appealed to the law, and procured indictments in Pike County against the Hatfields for the murder of their brothers, but the Governor of West Virginia would not grant requisitions for the criminals. On the other hand the Hatfields swore to exterminate the McCoy family, and Anse Hatfield offered \$500 to any one who would kill Randolph McCoy, the father; in consequence of which several attempts were made upon the life of the latter. In 1887 one of the McCoy brothers killed a man in Kentucky and fled into West Virginia to escape punishment. One of the Hatfields took him down to the banks of the river separating the States, compelled him at the point of a rifle to swim across, and just as he was ascending the opposite bank shot at him, killing him instantly. In the latter part of the year two of the McCoy brothers crossed into West Virginia and arrested a man named Phillips, who had been accessory to their brother's death and who lived in the very heart of the Hatfield neighborhood. In retaliation for this the Hatfields crossed the river on the night of Jan. 1, 1888, and set the McCoy house on fire and shot two of the inmates, a son and a daughter. Rewards were then offered for the apprehension of the actors in this deed of violence. For months there were raids back and forth and a succession of murders on both sides. A number of the Hatfield gang were seized and carried over the river. The Governor of West Virginia, in their behalf, applied for a writ of habeas corpus in the Federal court at Louisville. After a stubborn legal contest the Hatfields were remanded to Pike County for trial. The cases were called in September, 1889. One of the offenders turned State's evidence. Ellison Mounts, who pleaded guilty to the shooting of the McCoy daughter at the time of the burning of the house, was sentenced to death, and executed Dec. 8. Four others of the gang were sentenced to imprisonment for life.

JOHN JORTIN.

CHICAGO.  
I see the name of a "distinguished divine named Jortin" referred to in the writings of an American antiquarian. Who was Jortin?

L. E. W.

*Answer.*—Dr. John Jortin was an English divine and critic, born in London in 1698. He was of French extraction. He was educated

at Cambridge, and settled in London, where he became noted for his learning and eloquence. In 1764 he was appointed archdeacon of London. His Latin poems issued in 1729 are classed among the most finished modern productions in that language. Dr. Johnson commends the elegance of Dr. Jortin's sermons. He died in 1770.

#### CHINESE RAILWAYS.

ETNA, Ill.

Give a complete history of Chinese railways and tell how much has recently been done in constructing these improvements. READER.

*Answer.*—Two strong forces of opposition long prevented the introduction of railroads into China. These were: 1. The superstitious prejudices of the people; and, 2. The zealous competition of the many persons engaged in the carrying trade. The empire is traversed in all directions by numerous roads. None of these are paved and all are badly kept, but a vast internal trade is carried on, partly over them and partly by means of an extended system of canals and the many navigable rivers of the empire. Transportation overland has been largely accomplished for centuries by means of wheelbarrows, and a large force was of course necessary for the removal of goods and products by the primitive conveyance. These carriers naturally strove hard to prevent an innovation destined, as they saw, to rob them of employment; and, aided by the superstitious fears of the people, they were for a long time successful. The first attempt to introduce railways into the Chinese empire was by the construction in 1876 of a short line from Shanghai to Woosung, a distance of twelve miles. The concession permitting the building of this railway was only obtained from the government with great difficulty through the foreign ministers at Peking. It was opened for traffic June 3, 1876. The following year the government purchased the railway and immediately tore it up. About 1882 a railway for the conveyance of coal from the mines at Kaiping to Hokon, on the Petang River, was built, and was subsequently extended to deep water on the Petang. In 1888 this line was continued from the Petang via Taku to the larger city of Tientsin; the entire line making a length of about eighty-six miles. This line was opened for traffic to Tientsin in October, 1888, after being inspected and approved. A few weeks later an imperial decree was issued ordering the extension of the line from Tientsin along the Peiho River, twelve miles, to the town of Tungchow; but, suddenly, on account of the strong objections of the Conservative party at court, this order was rescinded. But in August, 1889, the Emperor

ordered the construction of a line across the Northwest Province from Peking to Hankow on the Yangtze River. He ordered the Viceroy Li Hung Chang and Chang Chitung, and governors of the provinces through which the railroad was to pass, to take charge of the construction. Very soon after this order was promulgated, a very sacred temple in Peking, the Tien Tan, or altar to Heaven, was burned, and this calamity was attributed by many superstitious persons to the introduction of the railroads. Indeed, the conservative party made such a strenuous effort to use the destruction of the temple as an argument against the railroad project, that it came to be generally suspected that some of them had caused the fire for the direct purpose of laying the blame on the foreign innovation. It was thought for a time that the Emperor's order for the building of a road to Hankow could never be carried out. But that ruler sent word to a large number of the high officials of the empire, governors of provinces, and others, asking them to report upon the plan of railroad building. Finding that these were, with scarce an exception, in favor of the new roads, believing that they would add greatly to the prosperity of the empire, the Emperor issued another proclamation ordering that work should be immediately begun on the railroad. A few weeks later operations were suspended, and, probably, up to the present date, little has been accomplished toward the actual construction of the road.

#### THE SWAN OF EISELEBEN.

CHICAGO.

Who was called the Swan of Eisleben, and why? STUDENT.

*Answer.*—This was a name given to the great reformer Luther. It is said to have originated in this way: The word Huss in the Bohemian tongue means *goose*, and the enemies of John Huss, the reformer, made this fact the foundation for many scornful gibes at him. It is said that when this martyr, who was burned at the stake July 6, 1415, was on his way to the place of execution, he uttered this memorable prophecy: "You are to-day roasting a lean goose, but after a hundred years you will hear the song of a swan which will arise from my ashes, whom you will not be able to roast." This incident may have been framed to suit the fact in later days, but it is true that in a letter written by Huss during his imprisonment, the reformer, alluding to the puns upon his name, said that he might indeed be a "poor, tame fowl," and easily caught, but that there would come one in a future season who would be a rarer bird than he, whom the enemies of the truth would not be able to ensnare.



This prophecy, conscious or unconscious, was afterward interpreted to mean Luther, who, just one hundred years after the martyrdom of Huss, began his struggle against the errors that had crept into the church by his attack upon the Monk Tetzel. Therefore it is that the great reformer is known as the "Swan of Eisleben," from the town of Rhenish Prussia, wherein he was born, and in portraits he is often represented with a swan beside him. The name has a peculiar appropriateness, also, when we remember Luther's talent as a hymn-writer and his love of music. Heine says that in respect to his hymns Luther well "merits the name of the 'Swan of Eisleben.'" Han Sachs, also, calls Luther the 'Nightingale of Wittenburg.'

## GOVERNORS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

St. JOSEPH, Mich.  
Give a list of the Governors of New Hampshire.  
W. A. NEWLAND.

*Answer.*—New Hampshire was in 1641 a group of small settlements, and was added to Massachusetts for protection. Forty years later, King Charles II. made it a separate colony with a Governor and Council appointed by the crown. Twice subsequently the two colonies were united as is indicated in the following table:

## GOVERNORS UNDER THE CROWN.

John Cutt.....	1680-1681
Richard Waldron.....	1681-1682
Edward Cranfield.....	1682-1685
Walter Barefoot, Deputy Governor.....	1685-1686
Joseph Dudley.....	1686
Sir Edmund Andros.....	1686-1689
United with Massachusetts.....	1689-1692
John Usher.....	1692-1697
William P. Partridge.....	1697-1698
Samuel Allen.....	1698-1699
United with Massachusetts.....	1699-1741
Benning Wentworth.....	1741-1767
John Wentworth.....	1767-1775
Meshech Weare, President of the Council.....	1775-1784

## PRESIDENTS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF 1784.

Meshech Weare.....	1784-1785
John Langdon.....	1785-1786
John Sullivan.....	1786-1788
John Langdon.....	1788-1789
John Sullivan.....	1789-1790
Josiah Bartlett.....	1790-1792
GOVERNORS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF 1792.	
Josiah Bartlett.....	1792-1794
John Taylor Gilman.....	1794-1805
John Langdon.....	1805-1809
Jeremiah Smith.....	1809-1810
John Langdon.....	1810-1812
William Plumer.....	1812-1813
John Taylor Gilman.....	1813-1816
William Plumer.....	1816-1819
Samuel Bell.....	1819-1823
Levi Woodbury.....	1823-1824
David L. Morrill.....	1824-1827
Benjamin Pierce.....	1827-1828
John Bell.....	1828-1829
Benjamin Pierce.....	1829-1830
Matthew Harvey.....	1830-1831
Samuel Dinsmore.....	1831-1834
William Badger.....	1834-1836
Isaac Hill.....	1836-1839
John Page.....	1839-1842
Henry Hubbard.....	1842-1844
John H. Steele.....	1844-1846
Anthony Colby.....	1846-1847
Jared W. Williams.....	1847-1849
Samuel Dinsmore, Jr.....	1849-1852

Noah Martin.....	1852-1854
Nathaniel B. Baker.....	1854-1855
Ralph Metcalf.....	1855-1857
William Hale.....	1857-1859
Ichabod Goodwin.....	1859-1861
Nathaniel S. Berry.....	1861-1863
Joseph A. Gilmore.....	1863-1865
Frederick Smythe.....	1865-1867
Walter Harriman.....	1867-1869
Onslow Stearns.....	1869-1871
James A. Weston.....	1871-1872
Ezekiel A. Straw.....	1872-1874
James A. Weston.....	1874-1875
Person C. Cheney.....	1875-1877
Benjamin F. Prescott.....	1877-1879
N. Head.....	1879-1881
Charles H. Bell.....	1881-1883
Samuel W. Hale.....	1883-1885
Moody Currier.....	1885-1887
Charles H. Sawyer.....	1887-1889
D. H. Goodill.....	1889.....

## EMILIO CASTELAR.

BURKE, Wis.

Give a brief biography of Emilio Castelar.  
What offices has he held under the Spanish Government?

READER.

*Answer.*—Emilio Castelar was born in 1832, the son of a broker in Cadiz. He was liberally educated, and upon his father's death in 1849 the young man went to Madrid to try his hand at journalism. About 1854 he became known as an orator of much power by a speech against military dictatorships. In 1856 he was appointed professor of history and philosophy in the University of Madrid. While in this position he both wrote and spoke against the government and was therefore suspended from the professorship. Soon after this, sentence of death was passed upon him by the government for seditious writings. He then fled to Paris, where he supported himself by writing for the newspapers. On the outbreak of the revolution of 1868 he returned to Spain and advocated the cause of a federal republic in a series of fine orations, which were published in 1871. Castelar led the party of the Republicans in the Spanish Cortes, under the government of King Amadeus, from 1871-73. In February, 1873, King Amadeus resigned and in the following September the Cortes made Castelar dictator. In the north of Spain, the Carlist war was then raging; elsewhere, particularly in Valencia, there were socialist outbreaks. The new ruler struggled manfully with the difficulties of his situation, but to little effect. He drew up a constitution, but the Cortes would not accept it. He found himself utterly unable to crush what he called "the red demagoguery of socialism on the one hand, and the white demagoguery of Carlism on the other." In the beginning of 1874 he resigned the dictatorship, but asked for a vote of confidence from the Cortes, which was denied him. The Cortes was now dissolved by General Pavia, the captain general of the army, and a provisional government was established, with Marshal Serrano at its head. In 1875 a proclamation

was issued declaring Alfonso XII. to be the chosen King of Spain, and Castelar retired to France, where he occupied himself with literature for a time. In 1876 he returned to Spain and was elected to the Cortes. He has spoken there in behalf of a constitutional and non-hereditary monarchy, though with but little effect. He is now claimed by the republicans, but he refuses to ally himself with them openly, since they will not agree to the policy of moderation which he advises.

#### ANCIENT THRESHING CUSTOMS.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop describe the different modes used for threshing out grain in the East in the olden time? H. W.

*Answer.*—"The ancient threshing places," says Dr. Schaff, in his "Bible Dictionary," "were selected upon the summits of hills, open on every side to the wind. Though called floors, they were nothing but flats of ground from 50 to 100 feet in diameter, annually leveled and rolled so as to be hard as a floor. Often there was, as is still frequently the case, but one such place for a village, and each husbandman, in a fixed order, must take his turn for using it. The sheaves were thrown together in a heap, and the grain beaten out by a machine or by the feet of oxen. The threshing machine was formed of a heavy square frame with rollers, each of which was encircled by three or four iron rings, or wheels serrated like the teeth of a saw. The machine was drawn by a pair of oxen, the driver sitting on a cross-piece fastened into the frame, and as the heavy rollers passed over it the grain was crushed out on every side, and the straw by being torn was rendered suitable for fodder. Sometimes this frame was so constructed as to resemble a cart, and furnishes a striking figure of violence and destruction. As the grain accumulated, it was formed into a great heap in the center of the floor around which the oxen were driven. It was customary for the owner to sleep near by to protect the grain from thieves. Tender cereals were beaten out with a stick. After the grain was threshed and winnowed, the chaff was collected on a neighboring hill and burned."

#### TELEGRAPHS IN CHINA.

ETNA, Ill.  
Give a history of telegraph building in China. READER.

*Answer.*—The first telegraph in China was built in 1866 during a war in Formosa. The viceroy of the province of Fuh-Keen ordered the construction of a line of telegraph from Pagoda Island to Foo-chow-Foo. The government disapproved of his plan and made several attempts to frustrate the undertaking, but as the ministers from foreign

countries in Peking insisted upon the fulfillment of the contract with the telegraph company, the line was finished. There was considerable opposition on the part of the people to the innovation, but this was gradually dispelled. Now, the telegraph has been gradually extended, until its use is common in a very large part of the kingdom. There is a line between Peking and Tientsin, and also one connecting the capital with the principal places in Mantchuria and extending up to the Russian frontier on the Amoor and the Ussuri Rivers. All the seven treaty ports on the Yangtse River, also all the principal cities of the empire, are now connected with each other and with the capital. The line from Canton westerly has been pushed to Yunnan-fu, the capital of the province of Yunnan, near the borders of Burmah. Lines have also been constructed between Foo-chow and Canton, and between Port Arthur and the capital of Corea, and the line along the Yangtse Valley has been extended far into the interior. By an arrangement recently made with the Russian authorities, the Chinese and Siberian lines in the Amoor Valley are to be joined, so that there will be direct telegraphic communication between Peking and Europe.

#### THE BELGIAN ASSEMBLY—THE SAXON PARLIAMENT.

RACINE, Wis.

1. What are the qualifications for members of the Belgian House of Deputies, and also those of the Senate? 2. What are the qualifications required for members of the upper and lower houses of the Saxon Parliament? L. R. G.

*Answer.*—1. The Chamber of Representatives of the Belgian Assembly is composed of Deputies chosen by all citizens, 21 years of age and over, who pay direct taxes to the annual amount of 40 francs. The number of Deputies is fixed according to population, and can not exceed one member for every 40,000 inhabitants. To be eligible to this house each member must be a Belgian by birth or naturalization, must have attained the age of 25 years, and must be a resident of Belgium. The members are elected for four years. The Belgian Senate has by the law of the kingdom exactly one-half the number of members of the lower house, and the Senators are elected by the same citizens who choose the Deputies. They are elected for eight years. A Senator must have all the qualifications of a Deputy, and further must be at least 40 years of age, and pay in direct taxes not less than 2,116 francs. In those provinces where the list of citizens who possess the property qualification for the Senate does not reach the proportion of one in 6,000 of the population, that list is enlarged by the admission into it of those citizens who pay the greatest amount of direct taxes, so that the

list shall always contain at least one person who is eligible to the Senate for every 6,000 inhabitants of the province. 2. The Upper Chamber of the Saxon Parliament includes: The princes of the blood royal; the proprietors of mediatised domains, now held by five owners; twelve Deputies elected by the owners of other noble estates; ten noble proprietors and five other members without restriction nominated by the King for life; the burgo-masters of eight towns; and the superintendents and deputies of five collegiate institutions of the University of Leipzig, and of the Roman Catholic chapter of St. Peter at Bautzen. The lower chamber is made up of thirty-five deputies of towns and forty-five representatives of rural communes. The qualification for a seat in the upper house, and the right of election thereto, is the possession of a landed estate worth at least 8,000 marks a year; but this is not required by the deputies of chapters and universities. To be a member of the lower house, no fixed income is required; and electors are all men above 25 years of age who pay 8 marks annual land tax or other direct contributions, or who own land with a dwelling-house.

## CANADA AND ENGLAND.

VERMILLION, S. D.

Admirers of the British government claim that Canada is free and independent, except in name, and that England has no income from Canada, but protects Canada for glory only. What are the facts?

CHARLES M. LIND.

*Answer.*—Great Britain has no income from Canada, except what her citizens gain through reciprocal trade. The Canadians pay no direct revenue or tax to the British government, nor any part of the interest on the National debt of Great Britain, as is so often ignorantly asserted. The home government has several times voted large sums to the province to carry on public works, and on these, of course, the Dominion pays the British government interest. The executive authority of the Canadian government is nominally vested in the Queen, who appoints the governor general to carry on the government in her name. The command of the militia and of all naval and military forces of the Dominion is also vested in the Queen, who, if she wishes, may appoint a commander-in-chief of the same, and these two appointments constitute the only exercise of authority in Canadian affairs made by the British Government. The salary of the Governor General is paid out of the Canadian exchequer. By virtue of her control of the army and navy, the Queen reserves a theoretic right to call upon the provinces for men in time of war, but in practice this assistance is allowed to be voluntary. In

regard to matters of local government the Canadians are absolutely independent of Great Britain, choosing their own representatives and holding their parliament responsible to the popular will of the Dominion solely.

## THE SIDEREAL DAY.

RANDOLPH, Wis.

In a book recently published for teachers it is stated that, "In the year 1888 the earth rotated 367 times." Will Our Curiosity Shop please tell if this is correct, and explain it?

M. E. HOWITT.

*Answer.*—The statement is correct as regards astronomical or sidereal time, but not as regards civil or solar time. If the time is noted when a particular fixed star is exactly north, or on the meridian, when the same star comes again to the meridian on the following day the earth has made exactly one rotation and the time that has elapsed is one sidereal day. This portion of time is practically always of the same length, since the rotation of the earth upon its axis is almost absolutely uniform and therefore sidereal or star time is much used by astronomers. But the civil or solar day is measured between two passages of the sun across the meridian, and this is about four minutes longer than the sidereal day. The cause of the greater length is plain. When the earth has made a complete turn, so as to bring the meridian of the place to the same position among the fixed stars as at noon time the day before, the sun has in the meanwhile apparently moved eastward nearly one degree among the stars, and it takes the earth about four minutes more to move around so that the meridian can overtake him. Thus, though in a solar year of 365 days the earth turns on its axis 366 times, as its movement is marked by the stars, the rotations as marked by the sun on the meridian accord with the solar day, or the complete alternations of light and darkness; that is, there are but 365.

## THE SIXTEENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY.

SAN DIEGO, Cal.

Give a sketch of the Sixteenth Illinois Cavalry, with names of commanding officers and those of "M" company, also.

R. T.

*Answer.*—The Sixteenth Illinois Cavalry was composed principally of Chicago men. Two cavalry companies, raised at the outset of the war, and known as Thieleman's and Schambeck's companies, formed the nucleus of the regiment. Thieleman's company served for some time as Sherman's body guard, after which its captain was made a major and authorized to raise a battalion. Thieleman and Schambeck's companies were then known as Thieleman's Battalion until September, 1862, when the War Department authorized the extension of the battalion to a regiment. This regiment was mustered into

the United States service June 11, 1863, with the following staff of officers: C. Thieleman, Colonel; Robert W. Smith, Lieutenant Colonel; F. Schambeck, Major; Joseph Gotthelf, Adjutant; William Bohlen, Quartermaster; H. Parker, Surgeon. The officers of Company M. were: H. S. Hanchett, Captain; H. Stocker, First Lieutenant; F. B. Wakefield, Second Lieutenant; A. V. Rayburn, First Sergeant. The regiment was sent to Knoxville, Tenn., in October, 1863, and part of it shared in the defense of that place, another part constituted the garrison at Cumberland Gap, and a third division was sent up to Powell's Valley. This last detachment, consisting of 356 men and fifty-six officers, was surrounded Jan. 3, 1864, by Longstreet's men, and forced to surrender after a sharp fight. In February the remainder of the regiment was sent to Camp Nelson, and thence went forward to join the corps under General Stoneman in Georgia. It was constantly engaged in skirmishing until the fall of Atlanta, and also took part in several important battles. The regiment was then sent back to Kentucky to be remounted. After that it joined in the pursuit of Hood, had several skirmishes with the enemy, and took part in the battle of Franklin. It then went into camp and between that time and July, 1865, was stationed at several points—principally at Pulaski—and was engaged in scouting duty. It returned to Chicago, where it received its discharge August 23, 1865.

#### RECIPROCITY TREATY WITH MEXICO.

NORFOLK, S. D.

Please give an account of the treaty between the United States and Mexico, framed in 1884.

E. O. N.

*Answer.*—The treaty referred to was framed in 1882 by Messrs Romero and Canedo, on the part of Mexico, and General Grant and W. H. Trescott, on the part of the United States. It was a reciprocity treaty providing for the entrance of a number of Mexican products into the United States without duty, and a still greater number of United States manufactures and native products were to enter Mexico duty free. This treaty was signed by the gentlemen who negotiated it, in January, 1883, but was rejected by the United States Senate. A two-thirds vote is required for the ratification of a treaty, and the vote in this case lacked one of reaching the necessary two-thirds. The sugar and tobacco interests of this country were arrayed against the treaty, and some of the Senators opposed it on the plea that reciprocity treaties were not constitutional, since they interfered with the free exercise by the House of its right to initiate bills for raising the revenue. However, after its rejection the President extended the period allowed for the ratification of the treaty, and it

was approved by the Senate in the early part of 1884. But the House would not adopt the enactments necessary to carry this treaty into effect, and it never became operative.

#### GOVERNORS OF MAINE.

BUCHANAN, Mich.

Please give the list of Governors of Maine from the earliest appointment.

B.

*Answer.*—Maine had been attached to Massachusetts for purposes of government during colonial times, and after the formation of the Federal Government and the organization of Massachusetts as a State of the Union it was still regarded as part of that State and known as the "District of Maine." The arrangement caused considerable difficulty, but it was not until 1820 that Maine was made into a separate State. Following that time the list of Governors was as follows:

William King (resigned).....	1820-21
W. D. Williamson (acting).....	1821-22
Albion K. Parris.....	1822-27
Enoch Lincoln (died).....	1827-29
Nathan Cutler (acting).....	1829-30
Jonathan B. Huntton.....	1830-31
Samuel E. Smith.....	1831-34
Robert P. Dunlap.....	1834-38
Edward Kent.....	1838-39
John Fairfield.....	1839-40
Edward Kent.....	1840-41
John Fairfield.....	1841-43
Edward Kavanagh (acting).....	1843-44
Hugh J. Anderson.....	1844-47
John W. Dana.....	1847-50
John Hubbard.....	1850-53
W. G. Crosby.....	1853-55
Anson P. Merrill.....	1855-56
Samuel Wells.....	1856-57
H. Hamlin (resigned).....	1857-57
Joseph H. Williams (acting).....	1857-58
Lot M. Morrill.....	1858-61
Israel Washburn, Jr.....	1861-61
Abner Coburn.....	1863-91
Samuel Corry.....	1864-66
J. L. Chamberlain.....	1867-77
Sidney Perham.....	1871-74
Nelson Digby, Jr.....	1874-76
Selden Connor.....	1876-79
Alonzo Garcelon.....	1879-80
Daniel F. Davis.....	1880-81
H. M. Plaisted.....	1881-83
Frederick Robie.....	1883-87
Joseph K. Bodwell.....	1887-87
Sebastian S. Marble.....	1887-89
Edwin C. Bureleigh.....	1889-

#### OIL FINISH.

HASTINGS, Neb.

Will Our Curiosity Shop explain how oil finish on wood work is produced and the material used? How do its wearing qualities compare with common painting?

READER.

*Answer.*—The following directions are given by one thoroughly experienced in painting and painters' materials. Prepare the wood first by filling it. For this purpose take starch dissolved in turpentine, rub it well into the wood with an old brush, let it remain for fifteen minutes, and rub off the surface with waste or a rag. Rub across the grain of the wood, and follow strictly the course of the fibers in order to leave the filler in the pores of the wood. Let it then have twenty-four hours to dry. Then put on the first coat of oil, and finish with a brush. Allow it one

hour to dry and give a second coat; another hour and a third coat. Give three or four coats and rub the last coat with pumice stone and oil. Use no water whatever. "The work is then completed, and will never need to be done over, for the surface will not crack, and the lustre, which is not bright at first, will grow brighter with every new year. For the first two years, it may be well to add a coat of finish before rubbing down with oil and pumice stone, but thereafter nothing will be needed but the rubbing with oil and pumice stone."

#### THE JAPANESE TROUBLES OF 1862-3-4.

NO. 235 WEBSTER AVENUE, CHICAGO.

Could THE INTER OCEAN Curiosity Shop inform me whether or not we joined the English, Dutch, and French, and bombarded Shimonoseki, in Japan, in 1863, and extorted from the Japanese government \$785,000 at the same time?

WM. H. BOSER.

*Answer.*—About thirty years ago two parties strove for mastery in Japan, a party friendly to foreigners and an anti-foreign party. The Tycoon led the first named party and the Mikado the last named. The minister of foreign affairs, who was suspected of being favorable to the foreign element, was, in January, 1862, openly attacked in Yeddo, and finally resigned his office. In the summer of the same year two British marines belonging to the guard of the British representative were assassinated by a Japanese officer, who immediately thereafter committed suicide. Later four British subjects were attacked by the escort of a high Japanese functionary, and one of them was killed and two wounded. A British fleet, under Admiral Kuper, arrived in the Bay of Yeddo early in 1863, to support, if necessary, the demand made by the British representative for a reparation of the crimes committed against British subjects, namely, the execution of the murderers of the British subject referred to; also that Japan should formally express regret at not having prevented the crime, and to pay a sum of £100,000 as the expenses of the expedition to Japan, and £35,000 for the persons or heirs of persons who had been wounded or killed. Admiral Jaures, the commander of the French squadron in the Japanese seas, received instructions to join Admiral Kuper in supporting the British demand. At last, after several delays, the British ultimatum was given, and the Japanese consented to an indemnity of 2,500,000 francs. The United States representative, Mr. Pruyn, had been more friendly to the government of the Tycoon than the representatives of the other foreign countries. When all the other foreign ministers had gone, Mr. Pruyn had remained at Yeddo, and was very useful in aiding to carry on the negotia-

tions with Japan and Great Britain and France. He, however, desired to withdraw from Yeddo to Yokohama. May 24, 1863, the buildings occupied by the American legation in Yeddo were destroyed, and Mr. Pruyn barely saved the books, etc., of the legation. Mr. Pruyn removed to Yokohama. When the Mikado ordered the Tycoon to repel the barbarians and to announce that the opened ports were to be closed, and the foreigners removed, as the Japanese would thereafter have no intercourse with them, Mr. Pruyn replied that he would insist upon the maintenance of the treaty, and that the citizens of the United States would remain in Japan and be protected by the United States naval forces. On June 26 the American merchant steamer *Pembroke* was attacked in the Straits of Shimonosaki, which separate the islands of Kiusiu and Nippon, by a Japanese armed bark and the brig *Laurie*, both belonging to the Prince of Nagato. The *Pembroke* escaped, owing to the darkness. Mr. Pruyn immediately notified the Japanese government that full satisfaction and indemnity would be demanded for this outrage, and he at the same time sent to the scene of the attack on the *Pembroke* the United States steamer *Wyoming*, which, on July 10, after a brief engagement, blew up the Japanese steamer, sunk the brig, and silenced six land batteries. A French gunboat, the *Kien-Cheng*, had been fired on, and reached Nagasaki in a sinking condition. A Dutch ship—the *Medusa*—was also fired on. Admiral Jaures went with the steam frigate *Semiramis* and the *Tancrede* to the scene of the outrage, and seized and destroyed the batteries of the Japanese, blew up the powder magazine, destroyed the residence of the daimio (prince), and burned a small village. On July 25 a meeting of the representatives of the United States, France, Great Britain, and the Netherlands was held at Yokohama, and it was unanimously agreed that the inland sea, now closed to commerce by the act of Prince Nagato, should be reopened by the united naval forces of these four nations. Then Admiral Kuper made an attack, Aug. 14 and 15, on Kagosima, which is in Kiusiu, the most southern of the four leading islands of the Japanese Empire, where Prince Satsuma had a castle and strong fortifications, and gained substantial advantage over the Japanese forces. In July, 1864, an American steamer, named the *Monitor*, was fired upon by Japanese batteries and troops of the Prince of Nagato. Attempts had been made by the Tycoon's party to conclude treaties with the powers that had been attacked through their representatives, but these the Tycoon was compelled to revoke on

account of the anti-foreign feeling in Japan. On Aug. 25 France was notified by the Tycoon that the treaty he had concluded with the French would not be ratified. Then it was that the expedition was undertaken which the British, French, Dutch, and United States ministers had for some time planned against the Prince of Nagato, who had repeated his acts of hostility to the foreigners. The plan was to secure a free passage through the Straits of Simonosaki. The following ships were engaged in the enterprise: British, the *Barossa*, the *Perseus*, the *Argus*, the *Coquette* and the *Bouncer*; French, the *Semiramis*, the *Duplex* and the *Tancrede*; Dutch, the *Metalenornuz*, the *Djambi*, the *Medusa* and the *Amsterdam*. The United States minister, who had no war vessel at his command, chartered the *Ta-Kiang*, displaying thereon the United States flag to show that the United States acted with Great Britain, France, and the Netherlands. Prince Nagato's forts were attacked, and two batteries were destroyed, Sept. 5. The following day some more forts fired on the fleet, but were speedily silenced. Sept. 7 other successes attended the allies, and the Prince of Nagato sued for peace, agreeing to accept whatever terms might be imposed. A treaty was concluded by the admirals with the Prince of Nagato, and after great difficulties and dangers the Mikado ratified the treaties which had been made. During the four succeeding years the revolution in Japan settled the question as to the opening of the Japanese ports and commercial relations with the civilized nations of the world.

#### THE BATTLE OF BORODINO.

TOPIN'S GROVE, Ohio.

Give a description of the battle of Borodino, with names of commanders, number of killed and wounded, etc.

M. FLINN.

*Answer.*—Borodino is a small village of Russia, about seventy miles to the southwest of Moscow. It is famous for a battle that was fought there between the French and the Russians, Sept. 7, 1812. It was one of the bloodiest battles of history. The French army, which numbered 125,000 men, was commanded by Napoleon, and the Russians, 160,000 strong, were led by Generals Kutusow, de Tolly, and Bagration. The battle opened in the early morning, the Russians having taken a strong position on a rise of ground, and raged with great fury until 8 o'clock in the afternoon. On the following day the Russians retreated from the field in perfect order, the French not trying to pursue them. The total loss of the Russians was 52,000 men, that of the French 80,000. As they had withdrawn in order from the field, the Russians

never acknowledged the battle as a defeat, and in 1839 they built a fine mausoleum on the field in commemoration of it. But the French were unquestionably the victors, as they held the field, but they gained little by the engagement except an open road to Moscow. The French called this fight the battle of the Moskwa, from the river of that name, and from it Marshal Ney took his title of Prince of Moskwa. The actual battle-field was not at Borodino, but on the opposite side of the small stream, the Kalotcha, an affluent of the Moskwa River, on which the village was situated.

#### IRRIGATION.

ABILENE, Kan.

Give some account of the methods of irrigation, distance between ditches, their depth, etc.

A. D. O.

*Answer.*—The methods of irrigation are very simple in themselves. A main canal or ditch brings water from streams that may be miles away. From the main canal, side ditches are dug, so that from one main canal thousands of acres may be watered. From these side canals furrows are made with a hoe, or with a small plow, running these in such direction as to give them a slight descent. These small furrows are kept closed with a board or with earth, but at intervals this obstruction is raised or removed, and water is thus allowed to find its way over every part of the field. Another method of irrigation, used on valuable lands, is to run perforated pipe, like drain pipe, about a foot and a half underground, and let water run through this. The moisture, by this plan, is soaked up into the soil in the most effective and permanent manner. This sub-irrigation is peculiarly adapted to fruit raising and the cultivation of garden vegetables. A fruit raiser of California declares that one acre of land irrigated in this way will yield returns equal in value to fifty acres irrigated on the surface. But water to be used in this way must be settled until clear, as if it contains sediment the pipes become clogged up and useless as conveyors of the moisture. Read also the article on California irrigation in Our Curiosity Shop book for the year 1884.

#### COCHINEAL.

SPIRIT LAKE, Iowa.

Describe cochineal, tell how it is obtained, and what it is used for.

I. CARLTON.

*Answer.*—Cochineal is an insect used as a dye. It is found on the cactus plants of Mexico. Similar species of this insect have been used from the earliest times to give material for brilliant dyes. The name cochineal is limited to the species found in Mexico. The Spaniards found it in use there when they conquered the country, and immediately in-

roduced it into Europe. The cochineal is a small insect with a body wrinkled transversely; the male has wings, but the female has none. The female only is used for the dye. Each female lays over 1,000 eggs. The proportion of males among the insects is small, being not more than one to 200 or more of the females. When mature, the female insects are brushed off the plants, and are killed by dipping them in boiling water or putting them in hot ovens, or on plates of hot iron. When killed and dried they can be kept for any length of time in that form. By the first method—usually considered the best—the insects turn of a brownish red color, losing part of the white powder with which the wrinkles of their bodies were covered. They retain this if put in a hot oven, and their color is then gray. Those killed on hot iron turn black. This is the origin of the different varieties of cochineal known in the market. It takes about 70,000 of the dried insects to weigh a pound. They are prepared for dyeing purposes by macerating them in water or alcohol, producing a beautiful rich scarlet dye. The coloring principle can be separated from this decoction by chemical means, and is then used to make pigments. Cochineal is very expensive, and cheap substances, as lac and madder, have been largely substituted for it as dyeing agents.

#### BRITISH WILD CATTLE.

GREENADA, Col.

Describe the Caledonian wild cattle kept in the park of the Castle of Chillingham, Northumberland County, England.

READER.

*Answer.*—The wild cattle believed to have been peculiar to the British Isles seem to have once ranged all the northern part of the island. Four herds of these cattle are said to be now in existence, of which the purest are those in the park of Chillingham Castle, the property of the Earl of Tankerville. These cattle are of a medium size, compactly built, invariably of a dingy, cream-colored white, and having the upper half of the ears a dull red, and a brownish red muzzle. They show all the characteristics of wild animals, and their uniformity of color is a strong proof that they can not be tame animals relapsed into a savage state. The keeper of the herd says of them that they hide their young and feed in the night, basking or sleeping during the day; they are fierce when pressed, but, generally speaking, very timorous, moving off at the appearance of any one, even at a great distance. The bulls engage in fierce contests for the leadership of the herd, and the wounded are set upon by the others and killed; thus few bulls attain to a great age, and these becoming feeble are gored to death by the

others. It is probable, as Sir Walter Scott used to maintain, that Chillingham Park and the Cadzow Forest—where there is another herd of these cattle—are both part of what was once a continuous forest, and that the white cattle are the remnants of those herds of "tauri sylvestres" described by early Scottish writers as abounding in the forests of Caledonia, to which Scott himself refers in his lines:

"Mightiest of all the beasts of chase  
That roam in woody Caledon,  
Crushing the forest in his race,  
The mountain bull comes thundering on."

WHITELAW REID.

CHICAGO.

Give a brief biography of Whitelaw Reid, our Minister to France.

READER.

*Answer.*—Whitelaw Reid was born in Ohio, and graduated from the Miami University in 1856. He engaged in newspaper work, and was correspondent for three newspapers for the convention and the campaign of 1860. When the war broke out Reid went to the South as a war correspondent. He served at first under General Morris as a captain, and afterward under General Rosecrans. At the close of the war he accompanied Chief Justice Chase on a tour of the South, and afterward published a book entitled "After the War; a Southern Tour." He also prepared a volume called "Ohio in the War," condensing the records of all Ohio regiments from the Adjutant General's reports. In 1868 Mr. Reid was given a place on Horace Greeley's paper, the New York *Tribune*, and the next year he became managing editor. On the death of Mr. Greeley, in 1872, Mr. Reid became the owner of the paper. In 1889 he was appointed Minister to France by President Harrison.

#### THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS.

HALSEY, Oregon.

Tell something of the islands purchased with Alaska by the United States from Russia, their extent, latitude, and longitude.

L. M. J.

*Answer.*—There were included in the Alaskan purchase all the coast islands adjoining that Territory; also all north of and including Prince of Wales Island, in latitude 54 deg. 40 min. north, and especially the entire group of the Aleutian Islands, which stretch westward from the end of the Alaskan peninsula. The Prince of Wales Island is one of the Alexander Archipelago, which includes also Baranof Island, on which Sitka, the capital of the Territory, is situated, and others, many of them very small, making 1,100 in all. East of the Alaskan Peninsula is another archipelago, including the large island of Kodiak, and north of the peninsula are the Pribyloff group, the Island of St. Matthew and the large Islands of St. Lawrence and Nunak. The Aleutian Islands

form a chain extending from 168 to 188 degrees west longitude, and their boundaries of latitude are 51 and 56 degrees. They consist of four groups: 1, The Saisignan Islands, five in number, lying west of the 185th meridian of west longitude; 2, the Rat or Kisi Islands, of which there are fifteen between longitude 185 and 180 degrees west; 3, the Andreanovski group, extending from longitude 180 to 172 degrees west, and containing thirty islands, and, 4, the Fox or Lisi islands, numbering thirty-one, lying between longitude 172 degrees west and the shore of the American continent, including the Islands of Oonimak and Oonalaska. The area of the Aleutians is estimated at about 6,400 square miles.

## A VOLT.

CHICAGO.

What is a "volt"? Webster's latest edition does not give it in the sense of a measure of electric currents as commonly used among electricians.

E. E. WOOD.

*Answer.*—The word "volt" is derived from Volta, the Italian scientist, and is the unit of tension or electro-motive force. A volt is very nearly the pressure yielded by a certain standard galvanic cell.

## OSCAR WILDE.

BELVIDERE, IOWA.

Give a brief biography of Oscar Wilde.

C. H. ARNOLD.

*Answer.*—Oscar O'Flahertie Fingal Wills Wilde is a son of Sir William Wilde, an eminent Irish surgeon. He was born in Dublin, Oct. 16, 1856. He studied at Trinity College, Dublin, and at Oxford, graduating at the latter university in 1878. He was a pupil of Ruskin and visited Greece as the traveling companion of the distinguished Professor Mahaffy, of Dublin College. During his college days he became noted as an apostle of æstheticism in dress, manners, and literature. In 1880-81 he made a tour through the United States, lecturing on the æsthetic fad. It is not generally known that the plan of this tour originated with, and its expenses were paid by, the managers of the Gilbert & Sullivan opera, "Patience." This opera was a satire on the æsthetic craze, then raging in England. In that country the opera was fully appreciated and had a great run. But it was judged that the play would not "take" in the United States, since as we had no æsthetic young men here we could not understand its clever hits. So young Wilde was sent over to pose on the lecture platform, and thus prepare the public for the youth to be satirized on the boards in "Patience." Neither the lecturer nor the opera, unfortunately, proved as successful as was expected. Oscar Wilde, however, was much admired by gushing young women, and

had flattery enough to satisfy him. Returning to England, he dropped the æsthetic fad, married and took up work as a journalist. He now edits a magazine called *Woman's World*. He has written a volume or two of poems and several dramas of no great note.

## EDUCATION IN GREAT BRITAIN AND CANADA.

GREENVILLE, IOWA.

Tell something of the denominational and other systems of education, as they exist in Great Britain and Canada.

T. DYKE.

*Answer.*—The highest education is provided for in Great Britain by the great universities and endowed colleges. Preparatory education, or that of the grades known as high and grammar schools, is left to private enterprise throughout the United Kingdom. No trustworthy statistics concerning it, therefore, can be given. There are a number of endowed public and grammar schools in England, but the government has no control over the conduct of these schools. In Scotland, according to the latest report, there are forty-nine higher class public schools under government inspection. In Ireland, there are about 1,500 schools of this kind, which are under the direction of an intermediate education board, being regularly paid for its work. But elementary education is compulsory throughout the United Kingdom, and in 1889 it was made free in Scotland. By an act passed in 1870 sufficient school accommodation must be provided in every district in England and Wales for all the children resident in such district between the ages of 5 and 13. An essentially similar act has been applied to Scotland. In 1888 there were 19,224 elementary schools in England and Wales. Of these, 4,562 were directly under the management of school boards appointed by the authorities, 11,838 were connected with the Church of England, 554 were Wesleyan, 895 Roman Catholic, and 1,375 undenominational schools. Of the 3,128 schools in Scotland receiving the government grant, 2,608 are public schools, 76 are connected with the Church of Scotland, 157 with the Roman Catholic Church, and the rest with other bodies or are undenominational. The law in England forbids the teaching of "any catechism or religious formulary distinctive of any particular denomination" in any of the schools provided or managed by school boards. In Scotland, by a law passed in 1872, the religious teaching of each school is left to its school board, without any restriction as to religious formulas. The different branches of the Scotch Presbyterian Church differ so slightly in the essential points of their beliefs that the question of religious teaching in schools has not been attended with as much difficulty in Scotland as in other



parts of the United Kingdom. In Ireland elementary education is under the superintendence of a body of "commissioners of national education." Half of these commissioners—there are twenty in all—are Protestants and one-half of them are Catholics. Half of the school inspectors employed are also Catholics. Religious instruction is provided for in all the schools, but a stringent conscience clause protects the interests of parents who do not approve of that given in the school. The plan of the state system of education was to unite the literary education of the children, but to keep separate their religious instruction. This plan, however, has not been successful in more than half of the schools. A recent report showed that in 3,168 schools under Catholic teachers all the pupils were Catholics; and in 809 schools under Protestant teachers there were only Protestant pupils. In the rest of the schools pupils of different faiths were in attendance, 2,714 schools being under the care of Catholics and 1,228 under Protestant teachers, while 77 were taught by Protestant and Catholic instructors conjointly.

Throughout the Canadian provinces the supervision of the public schools, or schools for junior pupils, belongs to the provincial government, and the funds for the schools are supplied by government grants and legal taxation. Education is more or less compulsory in all the provinces, except New Brunswick. All the schools are non-sectarian, except that in Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, and the Northwest Territories separate schools for Catholics are allowed. Any member of the Roman Catholic Church may, if he so desire, have his school tax paid for the maintenance of the separate schools of his own church, and with the fund thus secured distinctively Roman Catholic schools are supported. In Quebec, where the great mass of the people are Roman Catholics, the schools are entirely in the hands of the clergy of that church, but Protestant schools are also carried on and their rights under the State laws are recognized. The superior schools, colleges and universities are, as they are in most countries, mainly under private or sectarian management.

#### COSTA RICA.

LITCHFIELD, Ill.

Give an account of the climate, the products, and the character of the people of Costa Rica.

E. P. T.

*Answer.*—A chain of mountains, a continuation of the main Andes range of South America, traverses the entire territory of Costa Rica, widening in the northern part of the State. The mountains spread out into a tableland on which the principal towns of the

State are situated. On the southeast the tableland descends abruptly, but on the northwest it forms terraces and gentle slopes in its descent. On the Pacific coast the country is diversified with valleys. Through the center of the mountainous region extends the valley of San Jose, through which runs a railroad. The general level of the valley is about 4,500 feet above the level of the sea, and its scenery is beautiful and its climate delightful. A large part of the mountain range of Costa Rica is still covered with wild, unexplored forests. The climate on the uplands is temperate and healthy; on the coasts it is very hot and sticky. The rainy season is very long. On the Pacific coast it begins in April and ends in November, and on the Atlantic slope it lasts through the fall and winter months. The soil of the country is rich, and nearly all the tropical products are cultivated. Many of the fruits and vegetables of the temperate zone are raised in the highlands. Many wild animals are found in the forests, and serpents infest the wooded coasts. Large herds of cattle are raised in some parts of the country, also other stock. The staple export of the country and its chief source of wealth is coffee, for which the soil of the mountain sides seems peculiarly adapted. The population of the country in 1885 was 218,785, of which about 130,000 are whites, some 13,000 Indians, about 4,000 negroes, and the remainder of mixed blood. The whites are of Spanish descent, and, except among the Indians, the Spanish language is universally used.

#### BURIAL AMONG THE INDIANS.

RADNOR, Ohio.

In what way did the North American Indians bury their dead? Was the custom the same in all tribes?

M. N. SMITH.

*Answer.*—In a report made to the Smithsonian Institution some years ago, Dr. H. C. Yarrow gives the methods of sepulture used by different tribes of North American Indians as six: Inhumation, embalmment or mummification, surface burial, aerial sepulture, aquatic burial, and cremation. Inhumation, which is simply interment in the earth, was by far the most common mode. Schoolcraft describes the custom among the Mohawks, of New York. They made a large round hole in which the body was placed either upright or on its haunches. They covered the grave with timber, and raised the earth over it in a round mound. The Carolina tribes placed the body first in a cane hurdle, and placed bark above and below it. The Creeks and Seminoles of Florida buried their dead about four feet deep in a round hole directly under the cabin or rock where

the person had lived, placing the body in a sitting posture, covering it with canes and clay. There are Indian burying grounds still found in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Illinois, in which the graves are from twelve to eighteen inches deep, often lined with slabs of stone. Many articles are found in those graves, as pottery, heads, shells, arrow-heads, etc. Among the Comanche Indians of Arizona the dead body is wrapped in a blanket, then bound with cords, and tumbled into a canyon or ravine of the mountains. The Pueblos, of New Mexico, bury their dead in graves six feet deep, seven feet long, and two feet wide, rolling the body in a buffalo robe, and tying it with ropes. The Pimas tie their bodies with cords into a sitting posture before burying them. The process of embalment seems to have been practiced by the earlier tribes, though it is rare at the present time. From statements of the earlier writers on the North American Indians it seems to have been the custom among the tribes of Virginia, the Carolinas, and Florida to embalm their dead, especially persons of distinction. Quite a number of mummies have been found in the saltpetre caves of Kentucky, but it is still a question whether these were preserved by artificial means, or by the action of the soil wherein they were laid. The third form, surface burial, was practiced only to a limited extent, so far as is known. The methods varied. Sometimes the dead were placed in hollow trees, in an upright position, occasionally in hollow logs lying on the ground. Other modes were to lay the body on the ground, and to cover it with birch bark, or with stones. Black Hawk, the chief of the Sacs and Foxes in Illinois, was placed on the ground in a sitting position, his hands grasping his cane. The ground around it was picketed, as a protection against wild animals. The chiefs of that tribe were always buried thus. Black-bird, the famous chief of the Omahas, was buried seated on his favorite snow-white horse. He was in full dress of war-paint, with tomahawk in his belt, and on his head he wore his favorite adornment of war eagle plumes. The burial is described by Catlin as follows: "Turfs were brought and placed around the feet and legs of the horse, and gradually laid up to its sides, and at last over the back and head of the unsuspecting animal, and last over the head and eagle plumes of its valiant rider, where, all together, they have moldered and remained undisturbed to the present day." Aerial burial, which does not differ essentially from the last method mentioned, was perhaps the most common mode of all. It included several forms, as burial in lodges, on a plat-

form, and beneath a tent, covered with buffalo hides or brushwood, in houses built in various ways, but all raised from the surface of the ground; in a box of wood or a canoe placed on posts or on a scaffolding, and by placing the body in the crotch of a tree. Aquatic burial was performed by depositing the corpse in a canoe and setting it afloat on streams or lakes remote from human habitations. This custom was more common with the South American tribes than with those of North America, though some of the latter used it. The method of disposing of the dead by cremation was used to a considerable extent among the North American tribes, especially those inhabiting the Western slope of the Rocky Mountains. The dead bodies were placed upon a funeral pyre bearing considerable resemblance to that used by the Greeks and Romans.

#### IS THE MOON INHABITED?

STAFFORDVILLE, N. J.

Is the moon inhabited? Tell what is known on this subject. ADOLPHUS.

*Answer.*—While it is not possible to know anything positively concerning the question whether the moon may or may not be inhabited, astronomers have long ago agreed that the probabilities are altogether against the supposition that any animal life whatever exists on the surface of this luminary. The strongest presumption against the existence of such life is found in the fact that the moon has apparently no atmosphere, or none, at least, of sufficient density to support any beings such as those who exist on the earth. There are two indications to show this. First, the moon as seen through the telescope shows no haze or dimness on the edge of its disc, such as would certainly be seen if it were enwrapped as the earth is, in air, the densest portion lying next to the planet. Secondly, when the moon intervenes between us and any more distant object, there is no refraction visible. During a solar eclipse, there is no distortion of the sun's limb where the moon cuts it. And when the moon passes between the earth and a star, there is no change in the star's appearance or position, as there certainly would be did we see it through the refractive medium of the atmosphere. Of course the moon has no water if it has no air, since water would evaporate and produce an atmosphere of its own vapor. And this evaporation, be it noted, would not cease till the pressure of the vapor became equal to its elastic force at the mean temperature of the moon. If this temperature were at freezing-point the pressure of an atmosphere of water vapor would be 1-160 of that of the earth's

atmosphere, and could not fail to be detected by observers on the earth. The length of the lunar day gives another reason for doubting that the moon can be inhabited. As that orb turns on its axis but once during its revolution around the earth the lunar day is nearly thirty times as long as the terrestrial day. Near the moon's equator, therefore, the sun shines without intermission nearly fifteen of our days, and is then invisible for the same length of time. In consequence of this, the extremes of heat and cold must far exceed any ever known on this globe, and be far greater than any life which we know of can endure. To be sure we have never seen but one side of the moon, and the conditions on the other side may be different, but this is not probable. The moon has been thoroughly observed, that is, those parts which can be seen from the earth, through a telescope. There is no doubt that it has mountains and valleys. These have been carefully mapped, and from the appearance of the mountains, they have been judged to be extinct volcanoes. Telescopes are now made of such power that they bring the moon to within about 250 miles of the earth, and an object on its surface of a diameter of 450 yards could be distinctly seen. If there were lakes, rivers, forests, or great cities upon the moon these could certainly be perceived, and the surest indication of the existence of human life, to-wit: changes in appearance of the moon's surface, could not fail of detection. We may therefore conclude that the general opinion of astronomers, that the moon is not inhabited, is correct.

#### THE BEACH HYDRAULIC SHIELD.

CHICAGO.  
Please describe the Beach hydraulic shield, which has been used with such success in constructing the St. Clair tunnel.

STUDENT.

*Answer*—The following description of this invention and its workings we take from the *Scientific American*:

"The shield consists of a strong cylinder somewhat resembling a huge barrel with both heads removed. The front end of the cylinder is sharpened, so as to have a cutting edge to enter the earth. The rear end of the cylinder, for a length of two feet or so, is made quite thin and is called the hood. Arranged around the main walls of the cylinder and longitudinal therewith are a series of hydraulic jacks, all operated from a common pump, each jack having cocks, whereby it may be cut off from the pump whenever desired. Within the shield are horizontal braces and shelves. When at work the iron plates or the masonry, of which the tunnel is composed, are first

built up within the thin hood of the shield, the hydraulic jacks are then made to press against the ends of the tunnel plates or masonry, which has the effect to push the shield ahead into the earth for a distance equal to the length of the pistons of the jacks, say two feet, or not quite the length of the hood, and as the shield advances, men employed in the front of the shield dig out and carry back the earth through the shield. By the advance of the shield, the hood, within which the iron or masonry tunnel is built, is drawn partially off from and ahead of the constructed tunnel, thus leaving the hood empty. The pistons of the hydraulic jacks are then shoved back into their cylinders, and a new section of tunnel is built up within the hood as before described. The shield is then pushed ahead, and so on. The extreme end of the tunnel is always within and covered and protected by the hood. In this manner the earth is rapidly excavated or bored out, and the tunnel is built without disturbing the surface of the ground.

#### PITCAIRN'S ISLAND OF TO-DAY.

A correspondent sends the following interesting communication to Our Curiosity Shop:

"I recently read with much interest your article descriptive of the mutiny on the ship *Bounty*, and the settlement of Pitcairn's Island. I find in my last copy of a London paper an account of a recent visit to that island by a British vessel. As it gives information more recent than that contained in your article, it may be of interest to many of your readers who are not at all likely to see the London journal. I therefore transmit it to you."

"Captain Smith, of the *Firth of Clyde*, who has just arrived at Limerick from San Francisco, reports that he visited Pitcairn Island April 27, 1890. The ship lay to off Adamstown, the one little village of the island, and a number of the islanders came on board, bringing large quantities of fruit for the officers and crew. This was after 8 o'clock in the evening, and from the time that it had become dark the crew had perceived beacon-fires all along the shores of the island. The men who came on board said that the ship had been sighted at 4:30 in the afternoon, and all the children on the island had been set to work gathering dry leaves to make fires to guide the ships into the harbor. There are now 126 souls on the island, an increase of nine since Captain Smith visited it a year ago. He was told that the centenary anniversary of the mutineers' landing on the island was celebrated on the 23d of January last, with all the display that could be mustered in the shape of bonfires and fire-works. The only relics of

the *Bounty* and the mutineers that can be found on the island to-day, are several pieces of copper and one gun, which is placed in the center of the settlement, with a flag-staff in the muzzle of it. The only grave of the mutineers known to the islanders is that of Alexander Smith, alias John Adams. Graves of the others have been searched for in vain. This is not to be wondered at when it is remembered that this is the fourth generation in direct line from the mutineers, and that with the exception of four—Adams, Young, McCoy and Quintel—all of them met violent deaths. The island is so far aside from the usual paths of ocean traffic, that the people there are very poorly supplied with many of those essentials of civilization most readily procured in well-peopled communities, as clothing for the females, carpenters' tools, crockery and groceries. Books are also in great demand. Captain Smith does not fail to state that Queen Victoria has nowhere more loyal subjects than on Pitcairn Island."

#### THE ORBIT OF THE EARTH.

EXCELSIOR, Wis.

Why is the earth's orbit elliptical instead of circular? Why is not the sun in the center of the ellipse? W. S. R.

*Answer.*—Kepler was the first astronomer to discover the form of the orbits of the planets and the laws governing their motion around the sun. He soon found that the earth and the other planets did not move in circles, but in ellipses. An ellipse is an oval figure, bounded by a regular curve, and corresponding to an oblique projection of a circle, or an oblique section of a cone. It is plain that there is no point in an ellipse, which is equally distant from all points of the circumference, as the center of a circle is. But mathematics shows this figure to have two points, which are called foci (plural of focus) the sum of whose distances from any point of the boundary curve line, always equals the major axis, or longer diameter of the ellipse. Kepler discovered, by much laborious calculation, that the orbit of each planet is an ellipse having the sun in one focus. Kepler discovered this law; it was left to Newton to find its reason in the laws of motion. Newton's great primary discovery was the law of gravitation, but he did not merely rest with showing that the planetary motions could be explained by that law, but further solved the inverse problem, and determined what kind of motion that law required. He found that the orbit of a body moving about a central mass under the law of gravitation is not of necessity a circle, nor an ellipse of certain proportions. But it must be a conic section, and whether it is a circle, an ellipse, parabola, or hyperbola, de-

pends upon circumstances. The first law of motion, as shown by Newton, is that a body set in motion and acted upon by no outside force, will move forward forever in a straight line. The second is that when a moving body is acted upon by any force its deviation from the straight line motion will be in the direction of the acting force and proportional to it. Newton argued that two forces were acting on the heavenly bodies, a tangential force carrying them forward in a straight line, and a central force drawing them to the center of our great solar system, the sun. Two forces acting upon a body at the same time, one in the line of its motion and the other directly across the line of its motion, will give a resultant curvilinear motion. This can be demonstrated by any simple natural object, as a ball and a string. Mathematics can demonstrate with absolute accuracy the rate of motion produced by these contending forces and the form of orbit through which they will carry a body. A calculation from the laws which Kepler had deduced from observation of the planetary motions, enabled Newton to show that the force of gravitation acts on each planet directly as to its mass, and inversely as the square of its mean distance. He further showed that if the planets are acted upon by a force directly in the line of the sun, the radius vector of each body, that is, the line connecting the body with the central force, will sweep over equal areas in equal times, which is Kepler's second law. The determination of the form of orbit that would be described, in these conditions, was one involving difficult mathematical calculations, but Newton succeeded in showing, by a rigid demonstration, that this orbit would be an ellipse, with the sun in one of its foci. It must not be forgotten that the discovery of Newton, was not only of a force drawing the falling apple to the earth, and the earth toward the sun, but also of a counter-force by which, in direct proportion to mass, the earth draws the sun and the apple, the earth. Thus by action and reaction, as well as by opposing forces, the entire created universe is kept in equipoise, and holds its harmonious movement through the boundless realms of space.

#### HISTORY OF CREMATION.

FAIR OAKS, Mich.

When was cremation first introduced, by whom, or what nation? Are there any nations that dispose of their dead in this manner at the present time? READER.

*Answer.*—Antiquarians are not agreed as to the manner in which some of the very earliest nations disposed of their dead. The Egyptians used the process of embalming, and the Chinese buried their dead. The Hebrews

used earth burial, embalmed their kings and great men only, but they burned the bodies of those who had died of infectious diseases. The ancient Persians, Parthians, and Medes threw their bodies into the open fields to be devoured by wild beasts, but in later times cremation was adopted for sanitary reasons. Some writers assert that the Greeks first took up the custom of burning their dead at the siege of Troy through necessity, others that they took the custom from the Phrygians. In later years the Greeks denied the privilege of being burned to suicides, persons struck by lightning, and infants who had not yet cut their teeth, but to all others it was accorded as a right. The early Romans probably buried their dead, but from the time of the republic to the end of the fourth century of the Christian era burning the dead on a pyre was the general rule. The early Aryans, the Slavs, the Celts, and the Germans burned their dead, so that cremation may be regarded as having been the general custom among the Indo-European races. The graves of North Europe throughout the "bronze age" contain only jars with ashes. It was, no doubt, the Christian belief in the resurrection of the body which put a stop to the practice of cremation in Europe, and this belief is still used as an argument against the revival of the custom. Cremation has been the custom in India, Siam, and Burmah from the earliest times, and is still the usual method of disposing of the dead in those countries. It was the common custom in Japan until quite recently. Some of the tribes of North American Indians still retain the practice of cremation. In recent years there has been an attempt to have the custom restored in Europe, the argument for it being based mainly on sanitary grounds. In Italy cremation has been legal since 1877, and crematory furnaces are in use in Milan, Lodi, Cremona, Padua, Rome, and other cities, where between 1878 and 1888 over a thousand cremations took place. The practice is permissible now in every country of Europe except Belgium, Russia, and Austria. In Gotha, Germany, and in Paris large crematoriums are in use, and there is also one at Woking, in Surrey, England. There was one built at Washington, Pa., in 1876, and others have since been erected in this country.

#### THE PLAINS OF ABRAHAM.

CHICAGO.

Why are the highlands near Quebec called the Plains or Heights of Abraham?

STUDENT.

*Answer.*—Parkman, in his "Montcalm and Wolfe," states that "the Plains of Abraham were so called from Abraham Martin, a pilot known as Maitre Abraham, who had owned a

piece of land here in the early times of the colony."

#### COKE—THE BOILER GAUGE.

ASPER, Mo.

1. How is coke prepared? 2. How is the water-gauge on steam boilers constructed? J. M. B.

*Answer.*—1. Coke is the solid product left when the gaseous matters have been extracted from bituminous coal. There are two kinds of coke; gas coke, which is obtained from the retorts of gas works, and oven coke, which is made in ovens or pits. The latter is regarded by manufacturers as the only true coke, gas coke being merely cinders. There are two ways of making the oven coke: in ovens constructed for the purpose, or in large open heaps on the ground. The ovens are made of fire-brick and stone, arched over the top, with a hole left for the gases to escape, and another hole in front, and closed by an iron door, through which the coal is put in. When the oven is full its contents are ignited, and air is admitted below, while the gases are allowed to escape at the top. In twenty-four hours the air-holes are closed, but the gas is allowed to escape for twelve hours more. Then the upper hole is closed, the coke is left twelve hours to cool, and after this time it is taken out, drenched with water, and removed. Coking in the open air is the most common method in the United States. The coal is piled up in long ranges, an air passage extending along the ground beneath the whole length of the range. The entire heap is then fired by the application of hot coals at intervals, and after it has burned for a time, and the black smoke and flames abate, the whole heap is covered with ashes. When the mass has cooled the coke is drawn out. The process is not an economical one, since much of the inside coal is burned to ashes before the outer portions have been coked. 2. The common boiler gauge is a thick glass tube for the purpose of showing the height of the water in the boiler. It is not attached directly to the boiler, but to a pipe leading from the steam-chimney down to the water below. The boiler-maker should place the gauge, to be sure that it is always in the proper position. If it is placed properly, the water should just be seen in the gauge, when it stands three inches above the top row of tubes in the boiler. But Edwards' book of directions to engineers says that whenever an engineer takes charge of a new boiler he should fill it so as to cover the top row of tubes and the top of back connection, and then notice where the water stands in the glass gauge and mark it; he can then always tell at a glance how the water stands in the boiler. Another method of gauging is by the use of

small plug-cocks screwed into the boiler. These are generally three in number, and placed one above the other, about three inches apart; the lower one should be fixed just above the level of the upper row of tubes, or back connection plate. The rule is that the water must never fall below this lowest gauge-cock.

#### ARMENIA AND THE ARMENIAN CHURCH.

CHICAGO, Ill.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give some information concerning the Armenian Church and the Armenian people? Are the Armenians as a nation Christian? Has Armenia been at any time an independent nation? E. M. M.

*Answer.*—Armenia is an inland region of Western Asia, mostly within the limits of Asiatic Turkey, but also extending into the adjacent dominions of Russia and Persia. Its boundaries have varied greatly at different periods. The whole of the territory comprised under the name has never been included under one government, but the kingdom of Armenia has in earlier times been an independent state, though generally it has been tributary to some more powerful neighbor. The Armenians proper, who now form but a very small part of the inhabitants of Armenia, claim to be descended from Japheth, the son of Noah, and assert that they were governed by their own kings from a very early period. Then they fell successively under the rule of the Assyrian, Median and Persian empires, though under the Persians they retained their own princes and paid tribute only. Under the great Tigranes the country was again independent, then fell under the power of the Romans. While a Roman province the country was ruled by native princes, and one of these, Tiridates the Great, was converted to Christianity by St. Gregory in the fourth century. After this time Armenia became the bulwark of Christianity in Asia, although it was overrun by the Persian fire-worshippers, then by the Mohammedan caliphs. In the ninth century Armenia again became a state of some importance, and for 200 years was governed by a native dynasty and enjoyed great prosperity. In the eleventh century the Greeks seized a part of the kingdom, while the Turks and Kurds made themselves masters of the rest, only one or two of the native princes maintaining a perilous independence. In the thirteenth century the Mongols overran the country. In the fifteenth century the eastern part became a Persian province and the western part fell into the hands of the Turkish Sultan. The subsequent history of the country is that of devastation by the Mongols and the hosts of Timur, and of a long contest between the Ottoman Turks and Persia for the possession of the ancient kingdom. At length Russia appeared as a pro-

tector of the Armenian Christians. In 1827 the Czar wrested from Persia a large share of Armenian territory, and in 1873 by the treaty of Berlin another large portion was ceded to Russia. Large numbers of Armenians had, before this time, left their country to settle in Russia, having there greater religious liberty. At the time of the Berlin treaty, it is understood, Great Britain made a secret compact with Turkey, agreeing to protect the latter country in "the control of her Asiatic possessions on condition that necessary reforms should be made in their administration, and that the Armenians should be protected against the Kurds and other lawless tribes. Turkey has altogether disregarded her part in this compact, as the present troubles in the province show. The total number of Armenians is estimated at about 2,500,000, but of these not more than 1,000,000 live in Armenia, the remainder being dispersed in different parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa. The national cohesion of the people is almost as strong as that of the Jews. In Armenia the people speak the Armenian language, but the scattered communities have largely come to use other tongues. The distinctive characteristics of the Armenian Church have constituted the principal agency in preserving the national unity of the Armenian people. The church was constituted a separate communion in the fifth century by the refusal of the Armenians to accept the decisions of the Council of Chalcedon in the controversy concerning the two-fold nature of Christ. It was then called the Gregorian Church. It has some points of agreement with the Greek Church, and in others agrees with the Roman Catholic faith. There is a sect called the United Armenians that acknowledges the Pope of Rome as the head of the church, but the Armenian Church proper has never agreed to this. The Armenians agree with the Greeks in maintaining that the Holy Ghost proceeds from the Father only, and they baptize after the manner of the Greeks by partially immersing the person or child and thrice pouring water upon their heads, but they make the sign of the cross with two fingers, while the Greeks make it with three. They believe in transubstantiation, with the Roman Catholics, and accept seven sacraments, but they join confirmation with baptism, and hold that extreme unction is to be administered to ecclesiastics only, and that immediately after and not before death. They accept the adoration of saints, and regard confession and absolution as necessary to salvation, but they do not believe in purgatory.

The Armenian Church has a great number of fasts, but only a few religious festivals, and there are nine grades of the clergy. An attempt was made some years ago to induce the Armenians to alter their faith so far as to admit of their union with the English Church, but it failed.

#### VACCINATION.

SALEM, Wis.

Tell something about vaccination. Is there any danger of incurring disease when pure virus is used? Is it a sure preventive of small-pox?

I. H.

*Answer.*—There are admitted to be certain risks in vaccination, even when carefully selected vaccine lymph is used. These risks may be divided into the risks inherent in the cow-pox infection and the risks contingent to the puncture of the skin. The latter are very slight, and little need be said of them, but the former have been divided by physicians into five forms of diseases—erysipelas, jaundice, skin eruptions, vaccinal ulcers, and what is called vaccinal syphilis. In regard to the first of these Dr. Jenner himself, the discoverer of vaccination, noted that a slight attack of erysipelas was very commonly a part of the fever attendant on the vaccinating process. The redness which appears around the pock on the arm in vaccination is normally of the character of erysipelas. In the case of grown persons this is productive of no harm, but on the tender flesh of a child it often spreads and may lead to fatal results. But the mortality of infants from erysipelas is very great, many children dying from this disease every year, and of this mortality the cases that can be traced in origin to vaccination form a very small part. A record of the deaths of children one year old and under from erysipelas has been kept in the Registrar General's office in London, England, for thirty years. This shows that the cases ascribed to erysipelas occurring immediately after vaccination never reached 10 per cent, and usually were not more than 2 or 3 per cent of the whole. The idea that jaundice is sometimes caused by vaccination is a modern one, and there is very little to prove it. In the latter part of 1883, owing to a small-pox alarm, a large number of workmen were vaccinated at Bremen, and of these nearly one-sixth were attacked with jaundice during the six months following. The physicians were inclined to think that the jaundice, though the people ascribed it to the vaccination, might have had an altogether different cause. The skin-eruptions that sometimes follow vaccination appear to be a secondary effect of the mild disease created by the lymph, and usually they are very readily healed. Sometimes, however, the eruption may take the form of

an ulcer, but this may be, and probably most frequently is, occasioned by picking the scab off the sore, whereby floating impurities are allowed to get into it and poison it. As to the cases of vaccinal syphilis, as they are called, of which so much have been made by the opponents of vaccination, a thorough examination of them has shown that no real evidence can be brought to prove the disease to have been induced by the vaccination. It is in all cases congenital or inherited disease, which might appear at any time, and to test the matter thoroughly, children known to have inherited, syphilis have been vaccinated when the skin was clear of eruption, and, provided the lymph was taken at the proper time, the vaccinal sore has healed as readily and naturally as in a healthy child. Further, the lymph taken from the apparently healthy vaccinal sores of the syphilitic child has been used to vaccinate other children, with no ill results whatever. These experiments have been repeated so often as to give a result which is regarded as conclusive. In the writings of anti-vaccinists it has been asserted that scrofula, tubercle, whooping-cough, diarrhoea, and other common causes of infant mortality have been increased by vaccination. Neither theory nor experience, however, seems to justify the idea that the tuberculous or scrofulous infection may be conveyed by the vaccine lymph, while as to the common infantine maladies it can only be admitted that children of slight vitality may be predisposed to fall into them by vaccination, since this operation must produce for a brief period some disturbance of the system, and presumably a temporary loss of the natural power to resist the various noxious influences by which the age of infancy, especially among the poor, is beset. But, admitting all that can possibly be shown, even on presumptive evidence only, concerning the evil effects of vaccination, these are still so far overshadowed by the great value of the process in lessening the mortality from that dread disease, small-pox, that they are hardly worthy of being taken into account at all. During the last half of the eighteenth century, out of every thousand deaths in England, ninety-six were caused by small-pox; during the first half of the present century, but thirty deaths out of a thousand were caused by this disease. In localities where vaccination has been made compulsory, the proportion has been reduced to two in a thousand deaths. In the periods of recent small-pox epidemics, as in 1881, 1877, and 1871, the mortality caused by it, especially among the poorer classes, has been very great. Still, the deaths among children under 5 years of age, which, forty

years ago, averaged 75 per cent of the total mortality, have now fallen to not more than 30 per cent, a change that can only be ascribed to the general practice of vaccination. It is known that re-vaccination, at regular intervals, is necessary to secure the highest possible degree of immunity from small-pox, but this is generally neglected. The returns from small-pox hospitals show a very much greater mortality among the unvaccinated patients than among those who have been vaccinated. From observation of more than 15,000 cases in the London hospitals, it was found that while the unvaccinated died at the rate of 37 per cent, the mortality among the vaccinated was only  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Another physician gives the comparative death rate as six to forty. During the epidemic of 1881 the ratio of deaths in England among the unvaccinated to those among the vaccinated was as forty-four to one. Mulhall's Dictionary of Statistics gives the annual mortality from small-pox in England in the latter half of the eighteenth century as 3,000 to each million inhabitants; from 1840 to 1854 it was 430 to the million per annum; 1871 to 1873, 178; 1881, 100. No comprehensive statistics concerning the disease in this country have ever been compiled.

#### SECOND REGIMENT, ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD.

CHICAGO.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give us the history of the Second Regiment, Illinois National Guard, what regiment it was called before it was named the Second, and what service it has done, if any? JOHN R. MAYESKIE.

*Answer.*—The Second Regiment, Illinois National Guard, was formerly the Second Regiment of the State Guard. Early in 1875, the regiment was formed, five Irish companies forming its nucleus—the Irish Rifles, Mulligan Zouaves, Montgomery Guards, Clann-Gael Guards, and the Irish Legion. A battalion of six companies was formed, and James Quirk, who had, during the war, served as Lieutenant Colonel of the Twenty-third Illinois Infantry, was chosen Major. In 1876, the State Legislature adopted a code providing for the enrollment and arming of a body of militia to be known as the Illinois National Guard. The Second Regiment was then taken over into the National Guard. It had at that time eight companies. The Second Regiment was on duty during the riots of 1877, and the diligence and efficiency of its members at that trying time won much admiration. Some two years later, its membership having fallen away, the regiment was consolidated with the Sixth Battalion, consisting of four companies, which had been raised on the South Side imme-

diately after the great riots. Major W. H. Thompson, of the battalion, was elected Colonel of the regiment as consolidated. By the fall of 1883 the Irish companies had all dropped out, leaving the regiment made up of the Sixth Battalion and of the enlistments made subsequent to the consolidation. In 1884 Colonel Thompson resigned, and was succeeded by Colonel H. A. Wheeler, who was later succeeded by Colonel Florence Ziegfeldt.

#### SYMPATHETIC SOUNDS.

CHICAGO.

The following is taken from Professor Dolbear's book on the telephone, published in 1877, chapter on "Sympathetic Vibrations": "When the iron bridge at Colebrook Dale was building, a fiddler came along and said to the workmen that he could fiddle their bridge down. The builders thought this boast a fiddle-de-dee and invited the musician to fiddle away to his heart's content. One note after another was struck upon the strings until one was found with which the bridge was in sympathy, when the bridge began to shake violently. The workmen were alarmed at the unexpected result and ordered the fiddler to stop." Please explain this incident.

ALEX. CAMPBELL.

*Answer.*—Professor Dolbear does not, we notice, give the source from which he has taken this interesting little story. For ourselves we are inclined to doubt its authenticity. We do not say that it is impossible, but there is an air about it that seems to ally it rather with the scientific romances of Jules Verne than with the sober facts of history. Still, in the matter of strangeness, truth will ever outdo fiction, and this incident is not a whit more marvelous than the phenomenon of the "singing flames," and is fully explicable under the laws of resonant and sympathetic sounds. To explain the matter, we must first call to mind the fact that the aerial tremor, which we call sound, is not a pushing forward of the particles of air, but is like the spreading of the circular liquid waves seen when a stone is dropped into a pool of water; the water itself does not move but the form of its surface does. The nature of a sound depends not only upon the mass of air-surface disturbed, but also upon the length and frequency of the transmitted vibrations. These vibrations can be transmitted by air, by water, and by solids. The movement of the air in the case of loud sounds can be felt, and seen, as in the shaking of the windows of a room, and often the breaking of glass, by a loud sound produced therein. That every sound, no matter how slight, causes vibrating movements of the air is conclusively shown by the curious relation between certain flames and sounds. This phenomenon was first discovered by Mr. Barrett, an English chemist, in December, 1885. While engaged in some acoustic experiments, he no-



ticed that every time a shrill note was produced a gas flame near at hand would shrink. Further trials showed that the best form of flame to experiment with is the tall, V-shaped flame, caused by burning coal gas out of a small orifice. Mr. Barrett found that the shape and character of this flame underwent some remarkable changes when sounds were produced near it. "The sound produced by the gentlest tap, and not mere loudness, the clinking of money, the shaking of a bunch of keys, the creaking of boots, the crackling of a fire, the dropping of a cinder, the ticking of a watch, and even the splashing of a rain drop—all of these sounds startled or convulsed the flame, and the crumpling of tracing paper or the rustling of a silk dress caused it to become frantic with commotion." Mr. Barrett states that these changes are caused, not by the impact of air against the flame itself, but by the wavelike, to-and-fro motion of the air about it. He found that differently shaped flames were affected by different sounds. The V-shaped flame, for instance, was not disturbed by the bass notes of a piano or violin, but was directly affected by the high notes of either instrument and could be made to dance in perfect time to the music of a tune played upon these notes. Professor Pepper also speaks of a flame which he found to be insensible to the notes of a fine concertina, the notes of a syren (an instrument for measuring the velocity of sound vibrations, which produces a peculiar note), the shaking of an iron plate (the simulated thunder of the stage), or the notes of a violin; but trembled at the clanking of a chain, or at sounds made by steel rods struck with a piece of wood. To turn to the example of sympathetic sounds as affecting solids. It is known that a tuning-fork can be made to vibrate and emit a sound by striking another fork, tuned in unison, near by it. The tuning-fork struck vibrates, these vibrations come to the other fork and are repeated by it. If a piano string is tuned to a certain pitch and a glass near by be struck till a similar pitch be found, the wire of the piano will begin to vibrate. If the back of a piano be opened so as to expose its strings, almost any clear tone sounded near it can find a responsive string. This string can be clearly seen to vibrate, and if bits of paper be placed on the strings the vibrating wires can be readily detected. Conversely, if the pitch of a note made by striking a wine-glass or a goblet be found upon a piano or violoncello, and this note be struck continuously, the glass may be made to tremble, and, if standing on an unstable surface, will fall. These various experiments lead up to the principle of "sym-

pathetic sounds" on which the story of the fiddler at Colebrooke Dale is founded, which is thus given in Professor Arnett's valuable work on "Physics:" "Most elastic solids, when of certain shapes, being sonorous, that is to say, being fitted to tremble when struck, with a certain frequency of oscillation depending on their weight and shape, if the air around them be made to tremble by any cause, with the velocity which they are fitted to take on or produce, they immediately begin to tremble in unison with the air; and their motion or sound may continue after the original cause of it has ceased." It may be noted, also, that if the fiddler was able to place his foot, unnoticed by the workmen, on a beam or rod communicating with the frame of the bridge, the direct conveyance of the sound vibration to the structure would have greatly increased the shaking movement which so alarmed the builders.

#### THE DEATH OF PLINY.

HARMAR, Ohio.

Several weeks ago Our Curiosity Shop gave an account of the Vesuvian eruption in which the cities of Herculaneum and Pompeii were destroyed. Will it also give what is known concerning the death of the historian, Pliny, who is said to have perished at the time of this calamity?

R. L. SNYDER.

*Answer.*—Caius Plinius Secundus, better known to history as Pliny the elder, who as a traveler, an historian, and writer on grammar and on natural history, was a notable man in his time, in A. D. 74 had been appointed by the Emperor Vespasian prefect of the Roman fleet on the west coast of Italy. This appointment, indirectly, cost him his life. He was, at the time of the eruption, with the fleet under his command, at Misenum, in the Bay of Naples, and was spending some time on shore with his sister and son, who lived there. About 1 o'clock in the afternoon of Aug. 24, 79 A. D.—we take these facts from the very full and interesting account of the circumstances given by the historian's nephew, Pliny the younger—a cloud was seen ascending from the summit of Vesuvius. Its appearance is described as like a pine tree, with a tall trunk, spreading out in the form of a branch at the top. It appeared in some parts bright and in others dark. Pliny ordered a light vessel to be made ready, intending to go nearer to the mountain and observe the phenomena of the eruption. As he was going down to the boat a note was brought to him from the wife of a friend who lived in a villa at the foot of the burning mountain. There was no way of escape from that point except by sea, and Pliny was earnestly begged to come to his friends' assistance. "So," says his nephew, "he changed his first intention, and what he had begun

from a philosophical he now carried out in a noble and generous spirit." He ordered all the galleys to put to sea for the purpose of rescuing as many as possible from the towns on the sea-coast. He himself did not forget his desire to note the phenomena of the dreadful scene, and steered so near to the burning mountain that hot cinders and "great pieces of burning rock" fell upon the vessel, and while all the sailors were trembling with fright he calmly dictated a number of observations to his secretary. The shore was now obstructed with great fragments of earth and rock that rolled down from the mountain, the sea had receded, and the wind was blowing in shore so that the vessel was in great danger of running aground. Pliny, therefore, remarking: "Fortune favors the brave," ordered his pilot to steer to *Stabimæ*. Arrived there, he landed and went to the villa of a friend, Pomponianus, whom he found in a state of great fear. Pliny endeavored to soothe his friend's alarm by encouraging words, and by himself assuming an appearance of entire fearlessness of any damage at that place. We quote in the exact words of the younger Pliny the rest of the story:

"He (my uncle) ordered a bath to be got ready, bathed and sat down to supper with great cheerfulness, or at least what is just as heroic, with every appearance of it. Meanwhile broad flames shone out in several places from Mount Vesuvius, which the darkness of the night contributed to render still brighter and clearer. My uncle, to soothe the apprehensions of his friend, assured him that it was only the burning of the villages which the country people had abandoned to the flames. After this he retired to rest, and was so little disquieted as to fall into a sound sleep, for his breathing, which, on account of his corpulency, was rather heavy and sonorous, was heard by the attendants outside. The court which led to his apartment was now almost filled with stones and ashes, and if he had continued there any longer, it would have been impossible for him to have made his way out. So he was awakened, and getting up, went to Pomponianus and the rest of his company, who were feeling too anxious to think of sleep. They consulted together whether it would be more prudent to trust to the houses, which now rocked from side to side with frequent and violent concussions, as though shaken from their very foundations; or fly to the open fields, where the calcined stones and cinders, though light, fell in such large showers as to threaten destruction. In the

choice of dangers, they resolved for the fields. They tied pillows upon their heads with napkins and went out, and this was their whole defense against the storm of stones that fell around them. It was now day everywhere else, but there a deeper darkness prevailed than the thickest night, alleviated, however, in some degree by torches and other lights. They thought proper to go further down upon the shore to see if they might safely put out to sea, but found the waves still running extremely high and boisterous. Then my uncle, laying himself down upon a sail-cloth which was spread for him, called twice for some cold water, which he drank, when immediately the flames, preceded by a strong whiff of sulphur, dispersed the rest of the party, and obliged him to rise. He raised himself up with the assistance of two of his servants, and instantly fell down dead, suffocated, as I conjecture, by the noxious vapor, having always had a weak throat, which was often inflamed. As soon as it was light again, which was not till the third day after this melancholy accident, his body was found untouched and without any marks of violence upon it, in the dress in which he fell, and looking more like a man asleep than dead."

#### SIDEREAL TIME.

Explain astronomers' methods of computing sidereal time. BIG PINE, Cal.  
R. L. T.

*Answer.*—The point in the sky which is used for the starting point of sidereal time is the vernal equinox, that is, the point where the sun crosses the celestial equator about March 20 each year. The sidereal day is measured from the time this point crosses the meridian of any place to the time when it crosses it again. The sidereal clock is one that is set so that it marks noon every day, not at the moment when the sun crosses the meridian, but when the vernal equinox does so. Sidereal time at any moment, therefore, is the hour angle of the vernal equinox at that moment, that is, the time shown by a clock which is set to mark noon at the moment of the meridian passage of this star. The face of the clock is divided into twenty-four hours, and the time is reckoned completely around instead of in two half days of twelve hours each. Sidereal time will not do for every-day purposes, because its noon, or meridian passage, occurs at all hours of the day in different seasons of the year. On Sept. 22, for instance, this comes at midnight. The approximate relation between sidereal and mean solar time is very simple. On March 20 the two times agree, and after that the sidereal time gains two hours a month. On April 5 the sidereal clock

is one hour in advance; on April 20 two hours, and so on. Sidereal time can also be determined by observing the position of the constellation known as Cassiopeia's chair. A line drawn from the polar star through the star Caph, which is the leader of the bright stars of this constellation in their daily motion, is almost exactly parallel to the equinoctial colure. When, therefore, this star is vertically above the pole-star it is sidereal noon; it is 6 o'clock when the star is due west of the pole; 12 o'clock when vertically below it; 18 o'clock when due east. A little practice will make it possible to read sidereal time from this clock in the sky, with an average error of not more than fifteen minutes. The constellation of Cassiopeia is easily found. It lies on the opposite side of the pole star from the well-known constellation of the Dipper, at about the same distance as the pointers, and may be recognized by the zigzag configuration of the five or six bright stars that mark it. This is what is known as the "chair."

#### THE TAIL AND THE HIDE.

CHICAGO.  
What is the origin of the expression "Let the tail go with the hide?"  
READER.

*Answer.*—The phrase evidently has reference to the purchase and sale of pelts and skins, and it may be of great antiquity. In the furrier's business it has been an established custom, from time immemorial, to sell the tail with the skin. Or it may date back only to the time when the tails of cattle first began to have a commercial value, and the purchasers of bovine hides first found that their time-honored but hitherto lightly-regarded privilege was a thing quite worth contending for. Curiously enough, the date of this can be accurately placed. When the Edict of Nantes was revoked in 1685 by Louis XIV., a large number of refugees fled from France to Surrey County, England. They were generally small artisans, and were very poor, and being unable at first to find employment in the land of their refuge, were often on the verge of starvation. In their extremity of need they purchased from the tanners of Bermondsey the oxtails, which, according to custom, were then bought with the hides, and which had till then been regarded as so nearly worthless that they were sold very cheaply to the poor Huguenots. These people, however, contrived to make from these tails a most delicious soup. A philanthropist, who also happened to be something of an epicure, once happened, when on an errand of mercy to the Huguenots, to enter one of their poor lodgings when the good woman was dishing up the soup for her hungry family. Attracted by the savory odor of

the dish he begged the privilege of tasting it, and found it more pleasing, if possible, to the sense of taste than to that of smell. He thereupon proclaimed widely the virtues of the Huguenot fare, and the soup soon became a fashionable dish, and was for some time a source of much-needed revenue to the poor refugees.

#### THE TIDES.

FAIRHAVEN, Wash.  
Tell the causes of the tides, and why they rise and fall every twenty-four hours?  
C. N. S.

*Answer.*—The tides are an alternate rising and falling of the waters of the ocean at regular intervals. They have a maximum and a minimum twice a day, twice a month, and twice a year. Of the daily tide the maximum is called high tide and the minimum low tide. The maximum for the month is called spring tide and the minimum neap tide. The cause of the tides is the unequal attraction of the sun and the moon upon the earth. The liquid portions of the globe by their freedom of motion indicate this unequal attraction by their varying level. The moon is so much nearer to the earth than the sun that, although her mass is so very much less, she exercises much the greater influence upon the tides. When it is high tide at any place it is also high tide directly opposite to that place, on the other side of the globe. This is explained thus: The attraction of the moon upon the earth is felt most strongly by portions nearest to it, and the mobile particles of water, moving more rapidly under this attraction than the solid mass, form the swell of water called the tide. But on the side away from the moon, the solid mass moving all together under the attractive force, leaves behind it the less cohesive particles of water, which thus appear to rise from the center of the earth, and form a tide there also. The greater influence of the moon on the tides is not only owing to its nearness to the earth, but also to its unequal attraction on the different parts of the earth, while the sun's attraction is more uniform. The action of the sun raises a tide wave as well as that of the moon. At the time of new moon the sun and moon are both on the same side of the earth and, acting in the same line, they increase the height of the tide; also at the time of the full moon, when the sun and the moon are opposite to each other, their opposed attractions heighten the tides. At the quadratures, or when the attractions of the two bodies are acting at right angles to each other, and the wave produced by one body is lowest where that caused by the other is highest, the one is taken from the other, and the tides are at

their minimum. The rotation of the earth occasions the daily movement of the tide, rising and falling every twenty-four hours. To illustrate this, suppose the earth to be wholly covered with water, and to keep always the same face to the moon, while the attraction of the latter body—the action of the sun may be left out of account for the moment—is drawing its particles. The effect of this would be to raise the water higher than the general level on the side of the earth nearest the moon, and also on the opposite side of the earth. Now suppose the earth to be suddenly put in rotation; it is plain that the effect of this would be to produce two tidal waves following the influence of the moon over the surface of the earth. If the globe were all covered with water this tide would run around it regularly, but as the surface is cut up by continents the motion of the wave is broken, but the cause and manner of its movement is the same. This general illustration shows how the daily tide movement is caused; its course, height, and character in different localities can only be ascertained by observation.

#### VISIBILITY OF DISTANT OBJECTS.

FAIRHAVEN, Mich.

Taking the rotundity of the earth into account, and supposing we could see that far, what distance would any one have to be from Mt. Everest in the Himalayas, whose height is five and one-half miles, before its summit would disappear?

C. N. S.

*Answer.*—By consulting Our Curiosity Shop book for 1886, you will find a full and careful computation of the manner of measuring the curvature of the earth, and ascertaining the distance at which any object of a given height may be seen, and the height of any object when we know the limit of its visibility. The number of feet of depression or curvature from the level is equal to two-thirds of the square of the number of miles for any observable distance. This depression, however, is cancelled to an important degree by the phenomenon of refraction, which causes objects to appear higher than they would seem to be were there no atmosphere, and the estimate given as the result of careful measurement is that error from refraction averages rather more than one-seventh of that from curvature. The rule, therefore, for ascertaining the distance of a visible object whose height is known is to take one-fourth of its height in feet, multiply this by seven, and the square root of the product is the distance of the object in miles. Applying this rule to the case of Mt. Everest, it would seem to show that this giant mountain can be seen at a distance of something more than 225 miles; probably not with

the unaided eye, but by the help of a field-glass. A very clear atmosphere would also be necessary. We think this computation is correct, but will not presume to speak authoritatively as to whether the mountain can actually be seen at that distance. Theoretically, it can be.

#### THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE.

MORRISON IOWA.

Please explain the franking privilege.

READER.

*Answer.*—The franking privilege signifies the exemption from postage of letters and other mail matter. On the legal establishment of the post office in Great Britain in 1660 this privilege was given to the House of Commons, the peers and many government officials. On the introduction of penny postage in 1840, the system of franking was abolished in Britain. In the United States, the first privilege of this character was granted by Congress in January, 1776, to all private soldiers in service for letters to and from their friends. In 1782 a law was passed setting aside previous laws, and making free all letters, packages, and dispatches to and from members of congress, army commanders, heads of the departments on finance, war, and foreign affairs, and also single letters sent to officers in active service. The privilege was extended later to postmasters and others. An act passed Jan. 31, 1873, abolished the privilege and compelled all persons who had been previously allowed to use the franking privilege to pay full regular rates of postage, but since that time members and clerks of both houses of Congress have been authorized to send all public documents free of postage. All officers of the government are allowed also to send out "penalty envelopes," which can be used free for the transmission of official matters. Congress has also by special act granted the franking privilege to the widows of deceased Presidents.

#### THE RUSSIAN JUDENHETZE.

BROUARD, Mich.

Give the reasons why Russia has issued an order expelling the Jews.

J. M. HAMMOND.

*Answer.*—The recent decree of the Russian government against the Jews was a revival of certain edicts that had been passed in 1832, when a very strong popular feeling was raging against that people. These edicts had never been put in force, but have been held in abeyance against the Jews all these years. There is a very bitter feeling between the Russians and the Jews in their country, which culminates in outbreaks and bloodshed every few years. This is by no means founded on religious prejudice only, it is largely due to

the fact that the Russians believe that the Jews are always cheating them. In this edict of 1882 it was asserted that during the twenty years previous, while they were receiving many privileges from the government, the Jews had "gradually possessed themselves not only of every trade and business in all its branches, but also of a greater part of the land. With few exceptions they have devoted their attention not to enriching and benefiting the country, but to defrauding its inhabitants and especially its poor inhabitants." The Jews, it is needless to say, indignantly denied this charge. But the Russians believe it, and they find evidence to support it in the fact that Jews are so largely engaged in the business of money lending. It is charged that the Jews maintain in Russia a state within a state, and are absolved by their religion from either legal or moral duty to their Gentile neighbors. It is said that they declare the property of the Gentiles to be a "waste, free unto all," and that the Jewish council lets out to the highest bidder the right to obtain this property by any means whatever, and no one is allowed to deal with the Gentiles in competition with another Jew. In the same way Jew merchants purchase the right of trading with their customs. Unfounded as these charges may be, they are believed by the majority of the Russian people, and it is to popular hatred rather than to the private malice of the government that the edicts against the Jews in Russia are due. This popular prejudice is called the *juden-hetze*.

#### THE KILKENNY CATS—CUNARD STEAMERS.

STAFFORDVILLE, N. J.

1. Tell the story of the Kilkenny cats. 2. What is the origin of the name Cunard. As applied to a line of steamers. A. PHARO.

*Answer.*—1. The famous Kilkenny cats, according to the familiar legend, fought until they had devoured each other, all but the tails. It has been asserted that this fable had reference to two towns in the parish of Kilkenny which were always at war. But it has been also said that the story was founded on an actual incident. During the revolution in Ireland, Kilkenny was garrisoned by a troop of Hessian soldiers. These troopers, to relieve the monotony of life in the barracks, used to amuse themselves by tying two cats together by the tails and throwing them across a line to fight. The officers heard of this cruel sport and ordered it stopped. As it was soon after suspected that the order was violated, a sergeant was detailed to detect and arrest the offenders. The soldiers then set a man to be on the lookout for this officer and report to them his ap-

proach. In the meanwhile they continued their sport with the cats. This sentinel left his post one day, and while two tabbies were clawing one another's eyes out across the line the approaching step of the officer was heard. Like a flash a trooper swung his sword across beneath the line, cutting the cats down. The animals escaped, and when the officer came in and saw only two bleeding tails upon the ground he was gravely told that two cats had been fighting there, and had devoured one another all but the tails. 2. The Cunard Steamship line took its name from its founder, Mr., afterwards Sir Samuel, Cunard.

HENRY JENKINS.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.

Give a short history of our "Henry Jenkins," of the parish of Bolton, in Yorkshire, England, and note some of the many events that were included in the scope of his very long life.

H. WARREN.

*Answer.*—Henry Jenkins was one of the Methuselahs whose alleged great age is by no means fully credited by historians. The first that was known of him was in 1664, when a lady wrote to the Royal Society of London, giving an account of meeting a very old man in Yorkshire, Henry Jenkins, who claimed to be 163 years old. The lady, to test his claims, asked if he could remember any remarkable event of his boyhood. He said that he could remember the battle of Flodden Field (1513), that he was at that time about 13 years old, and had been sent to North Allerton the day before the battle with a horse-load of arrows, which an older boy carried to the battle-field. Jenkins further told the lady that the Earl of Surrey was general on that battle-field, as the King was at that time in France. As the old man could neither read nor write, the lady was much impressed by his knowledge of these historical facts. He further declared that he remembered the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII. After the date when public attention was first called to the great age which he claimed, Henry Jenkins was called as a witness in the Assize Court at York, where he testified concerning a certain right of way that it had existed to his personal knowledge for 120 years. Jenkins' attestations of his remarkable age seem to have been fully credited during his life, though he had not been born in the parish where he lived, and could not, or would not, bring forward any witnesses to prove his claims. He died at Ellerton-upon-Swale Dec. 8, 1870, and was buried in the churchyard at Bolton, his death being recorded as that of "a very aged and poor man" of Morton. In 1743 a subscription was raised, and a monument to the memory of Jenkins, a tablet of black mar-

ble, was placed in the church. On this was engraved the following curious epitaph:

"Blush not, marble,  
To rescue from oblivion  
The memory of  
Henry Jenkins,  
A person obscure in life, but of a life truly mem-  
orable.

For he was enriched with  
The goods of nature, if not of fortune,  
And happy in the duration  
If not in the variety  
Of his enjoyment.

And though the partial world  
Despised and disregarded  
His low and humble station  
The equal eye of Providence.

Beheld and blessed it

With a patriarch's health and length of days  
To teach mistaken man

These blessings are entailed upon  
Temperance, a life of labor and a mind at ease.  
He lived to the amazing age of 169,  
Was interred here Dec. 9, 1670.

And had this justice done to his memory in 1743."

We do not think that any doubt was ever cast upon the testimony of this epitaph until some fifty or more years ago, when Mr. Thoms, the deputy librarian of the British House of Lords, instituted a very thorough investigation of the alleged cases of centenarianism. He found that there was no proof whatever of the great age of Henry Jenkins, beyond the man's own testimony, and that this was, as recorded, inconsistent and contradictory. It was his conclusion, therefore, that the Yorkshire centenarian had added seventy years, perhaps more, to his true age, and that his reminiscences of "Flowden Field," and of the closing of the monasteries, were derived from the recollections of his father, or perhaps his grandfather, which he had heard, no doubt, frequently repeated in his early years. Were the story of Henry Jenkins true, it would be an interesting thing to note the changes that his life-time witnessed, from the alleged date of his birth in 1501, during the reign of Henry VII., to the day on which he died in 1670, when Charles II. was on the throne. This period witnessed the beginning of the English reformation, when King Henry VIII. abolished the authority of the Pope in England; the terrible persecutions under Mary, by which the progress of this great reform was checked for a time, and its final and successful establishment under Queen Elizabeth. It included the eventful reign of Henry VIII.; the more brilliant epoch of Queen Elizabeth, the "golden age" of English literature, when Shakespeare, Bacon, Sidney, Marlowe, Ben Jonson, and a host of others of less renown, lived and wrote; the reign of James, and the union of

the two crowns of Scotland and England; the famous contest between King Charles I. and his Parliament, ending in the King's defeat and execution, and followed by the brief period of the Commonwealth, and then the restoration of the banished King. This period witnessed repeated wars with France and Scotland, and also wars with Spain and Holland, besides the terrible civil war. In fine, a whole volume of history is contained in the events of this term of years, and that a single human lifetime should include it all seems indeed beyond belief.

#### THE SHAKESPEARE-BACON CONTROVERSY.

##### HAMLET, III.

Give an account of the Shakespeare-Bacon controversy, with an account of the cipher discovery of Mr. Donnelly.

##### INQUIRER.

*Answer.*—That William Shakesneare wrote the plays attributed to him does not seem to have been doubted for nearly a century after his death. In 1733 a critical writer, Theobald, declared there were "portions of the plays which proved beyond a doubt that more than one hand had produced them." This is the first expression of even a doubt concerning the authorship of the great dramas. Dr. Richard Farmer, whose famous letter on "The Learning of Shakespeare," was published about 1739, was the first actual unbeliever. His theory was that Shakespeare owed his apparent familiarity with the classic writers to the help of translations, and he was sure that more than one author must have had a hand in the plays. But this writer did not attempt to work out his theory at all, and the subject was not brought forward again until, in February, 1852, an article by Mr. Spedding was printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine* with the title, "Who Wrote Shakespeare's Henry VIII?" In August of the same year an anonymous writer in *Chambers' Journal* for the first time directly discussed the question "Who Wrote Shakespeare?" This writer, after looking into the question, arrived to his own "extreme dissatisfaction," he says, at the conclusion, that William Shakespeare "kept a poet." That is, he surmised that Shakespeare was a stage manager whose interest in the immortal plays was a purchased interest—precisely what the law now understands by "proprietary copyright." We do not know whether the name of the author of this article was ever made public. It remained for Miss Delia Bacon, however, an American lady, to maintain for the first time, in a paper which was printed in *Putnam's Magazine*, in January, 1856, that the plays ascribed to Shakespeare were really written by Lord Bacon. Miss Bacon was a sister of Dr. Leonard Bacon.

She was born in Detroit, Mich., in 1811; had been a teacher for many years, and had written a number of short stories and novels. She was a woman of rare personal gifts and of wide attainments. After she had taken up her anti-Shakespearean idea it took complete possession of her. She gave a series of lectures on history in the American cities, with the purpose of obtaining money enough to go to England and pursue researches upon her favorite theme. Her article in *Putnam's* made quite a sensation, it is true, but it brought out only sneering criticism. Discouraged by the harsh reception of her theory in America, she went to England, hoping to find there a more appreciative hearing. In this hope she was altogether disappointed. "She found that while at home she was treading only on adverse sentiment; in England she was openly tampering with vested rights, almost with the unwritten constitution of the kingdom." Yet about the time of her arrival, in September, 1856, Mr. William Henry Smith, of the firm of Smith, Elder & Co., booksellers, London, published a pamphlet entitled, "Was Lord Bacon the Author of Shakespeare's Plays? A Letter to Lord Ellesmere," in which the Baconian theory was plainly laid down and vigorously defended. Mr. Smith asserted afterward that at the date of this letter he had not seen Miss Bacon's article, but he never claimed to be the originator of the "Baconian theory." In 1857 Mr. Smith elaborated his letter into a book entitled, "Bacon and Shakespeare; an Inquiry Concerning Players, Play-houses, and Play-writers in the days of Elizabeth." During the same year Miss Bacon put her theory in the form of a book which she called "The Philosophy of Shakespeare's Plays Unfolded." This book was issued at the same time in both America and England, but it found very few readers in either country. The difference between the books was characteristic. Mr. Smith had put in his little volume much gossipy matter concerning players and plays, and was content to treat the question as an interesting literary puzzle. Miss Bacon, on the other hand, had prepared a great quantity of matter, some of it very valuable, some of it absolutely worthless. She was so intensely wrapped up in her subject that she was not capable of distinguishing between argument and absurdity, and so she had it all printed, in a great bulky volume, so difficult to read that those who looked into it were prejudiced against her case from the first, and did not attempt to labor through more than a paragraph or two. Miss Bacon was indeed too terribly in earnest. She believed herself to be carrying on a great

crusade against a universal error, and she wore out her life in the struggle to make others recognize the importance and grandeur that she alone perceived in her work. As the fruit of her long and laborious study of the system and structure of the plays known as Shakespeare's, Miss Bacon believed that she had found the secret of their authorship to be embodied in a cipher. By a careful study of Lord Bacon's letters she claimed to have discovered the clew to this mystery. She maintained that in these letters there were "definite and minute directions how to find a will and other documents relating to the conclave of Elizabethan philosophers, which were concealed in a hollow space in the under surface of Shakespeare's gravestone." She therefore went to Stratford-upon-Avon with the avowed purpose of crowning her labors by opening the grave of Shakespeare there and proving the truth of the secret she had already guessed to a doubting world. She laid her plan before the clergyman there, who, regarding her as a crazy woman, pretended to fall in with her plans, but really gave her no assistance. She did not succeed in her purpose of opening the grave, but at last, worn out in body and mind, she was induced to return to her home in America, where she soon after died. Miss Bacon did not assert that Lord Bacon was the sole author of the plays; she was rather inclined to think that other writers were associated with Bacon in their production. But after her time the unitary theory—that which declared the plays to be the work of but one mind only; and that the only writer of the time capable of producing them was Francis Bacon—was further elaborated. After Mr. Smith, the question was taken up by Nathaniel Holmes, a lawyer, who wrote a book on the subject, published in 1862, entitled "Authorship of Shakespeare." Others followed him, of whom, perhaps, two Americans, Appleton Morgan and Ignatius Donnelly, have attracted the most notice. Mr. Morgan's book, "The Shakespearean Myth," was published in 1881. Mr. Donnelly, somewhat later, stumbled on Delia Bacon's theory of a cipher, and either alone, or perhaps with the aid of some of her writings, succeeded in working it out. In 1885 he published a pamphlet announcing his great discovery, but the secret of this discovery he has not yet given to the world.

#### NAMES OF THE STATES.

DIXON, III.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop book give the nick-names of the different States of the Union?

H. J. MILLER.

Answer.—In Our Curiosity Shop book for the year 1886 will be found an article giving

the meanings of the names of the several States and Territories. Subjoined is a clever rhyme, written by H. U. Johnson, of Ashtabula, Ohio, department historian of the Grand Army of the Republic, in which the popular names of the States are ingeniously interwoven:

Dear Uncle Sam has many girls,  
All precious in his eyes,  
Tho' varying much in many things,  
As age and wealth and size.  
As sentiment they vary, too,  
In beauty, spirit, grace;  
The wealth of some is in the breast,  
Of others on the face.

He early gave them single names,  
Tho' double just a few;  
Then father-like he nicknamed them,  
As older girls they grew.

Miss Arkansas he called his "Bear,"  
New York the "Empire State;"  
"Excelsior," he sometimes says  
When he would her elate.

Rhode Island is his "Rhody" pet,  
Or "Little Rhoda," dear,  
When Texas, the "Lone Star," looks down  
Upon her midget peer.

North Carolina, "Old North State,"  
She is his "Turpentine;"  
"Mother of Presidents," V—,  
Doth "Old Dominion" shine.

Ohio is his "Buckeye" lass,  
His "Sweet Queen" Maryland;  
His "Keystone," Pennsylvania,  
To "Pennymites" is grand.

Miss Maine he calls his "Lumber" yard,  
Then "Pine Tree" sweetly sings;  
That Oregon is "Spirit Land,"  
To all he gaily flings.

Missouri beams the "Central Star,"  
"Blue Hen" is Delaware,  
Or when he would her pride expand,  
He "Diamond" lets her flare.

Miss California we shall find  
Is "Golden" on his knee;  
His "Silver Sheen" Nevada holds,  
"Big Bend" is Tennessee.

South Carolina bears his call,  
"Palmetto," in her hand;  
New Jersey's grit he honors much,  
She is his "Child of Sand."

"Green mountain" lass he hails Vermont,  
Nebraska, "Blizzard Home;"  
"Pan Handle," clipped from "Old Domain,"  
Is West Virginia tome.

His "Bayou" Mississippi is,  
New Hampshire "Granite" pride;  
Louisiana, "Sugar State,"  
His "Creole" doth abide.

"Jayhawker" Kansas most he calls  
His "Garden of the West;"

On Massachusetts, old "Bay State,"  
He lets his blessing rest.

Miss Minnesota, "Gopher" State,  
His "North Star" ever shines;  
O'er Michigan, his "Wolverine,"  
He spreads his waving pines.

Kentucky is his "Blue Grass" field,  
His "Dark and Bloody Ground;"  
But Florida, "Peninsula,"  
His "Flower-land" will be found.

As "Empire of the South" he greets  
Miss Georgia in his joy;  
But "Sucker" or my "Prairie" bird  
He hails fair Illinois.

Sweet "Hoosier" is the name inscribed  
On Indiana's breast,  
Whilst Iowa rejoices much  
With "Hawkeye" on her crest.

"Centennial" Colorado shines,  
Wisconsin's "Badger" child;  
That "Nutmeg," Miss Connecticut,  
Is "Free Stone" on the guild.

At Alabama, "Here We Rest,"  
Our dear old uncle calls,  
Until into the sisterhood  
Some new-born sister falls.

#### THE GUILLOTINE.

#### CHICAGO.

Describe the guillotine, the machine with which capital executions were made in France. Did its first use date from the time of the French revolution, and is it still used in Paris? **READER.**

**Answer.**—It is commonly supposed that the guillotine was the invention of Dr. Joseph Guillotin, a French physician, but this is an error; he only first proposed the adoption of a machine of this kind. This doctor was a member of the constituent assembly in 1789, and there brought forward a proposition that decapitation, a mode of punishment previously reserved for nobles and regarded as less ignominious than hanging, should be adopted for criminals of all classes, and he further suggested the decapitation by machinery in order to lessen the suffering. At the request of the assembly the matter was subsequently referred to the academy of surgery, and March 20, 1792, M. Louis, the secretary of that body, presented a report describing a machine which he had invented for the purpose of decapitation. The report was accepted and the machine was made. It consisted of two upright posts surmounted by a cross beam. The posts were grooved on the inside, and in these grooves a sharp iron blade was placed obliquely, so as to descend swiftly by its own weight upon the edge of a block whereon the head of the victim was laid. The machine was first tried April 18, 1792, on some corpses at the Bicetre hospital, and it worked so satisfactorily that seven days later it was used publicly for the decapitation of one Pelletier,



a highwayman under sentence. Its first political victim was Daugremont, executed Aug. 21 following. When the machine was approved the government ordered eighty-three of them to be made for use in all the departments of France. The machine was first called "louisson" or "louisette," but a satirical song concerning it published in a royalist newspaper gave it the name of la guillotine, which was ever afterward applied to it. It is worth noting that the idea of this machine was by no means original with the French physician. Centuries before, a similar instrument of death was used by the Persians. In Italy from the thirteenth century it was the privilege of the nobles when under sentence of death to be executed by a machine of this kind, which was called mannaia. An instrument called the falling hatchet was also used in Germany during the middle ages. During the sixteenth and till late in the seventeenth century a machine called the maiden, which much resembled the guillotine, was used in Scotland. One of these machines may still be seen in the antiquarian Museum of Edinburgh. In England, in the early part of the seventeenth century, felons convicted of theft in West Riding, Yorkshire, were put to death in the forest of Hardwick by a machine which was called the Halifax gibbet. In Toulouse, France, in the same century, a falling ax was used for the execution of criminals of noble birth. The Dutch, also, in the eighteenth century used a decapitating machine to put the slaves in their colonies to death. As to the question whether the guillotine is still in use, it may be replied that it is, though the historic machine in Paris was burned by the communist insurgents in 1871. The guillotine was adopted in Saxony in 1853, and has since then come into use in several other German states.

#### MOTIONS OF THE CELESTIAL BODIES.

EXCELSIOR, Wis.

Why is it, if the attraction of the sun or centripetal force is able to check the projectile or centrifugal force, that the earth does not steadily tend to fall into the sun? Or, if the centrifugal force is able to prevent this falling into the sun, why does not the orbit become more flattened in the lapse of time? W.

*Answer.*—The motions of bodies around a center are governed by certain mathematical laws, which take into account the relative power of the two forces that act upon the bodies. It is plain that each of these forces acts as a check upon the other, that the earth can not fly off at a tangent to its orbit, while the central influence of the sun's attraction acts upon it, and we understand that it is the opposing tangential force which prevents the falling of the earth into the sun. There are certain laws which govern the

path that a moving body must follow when acted upon both by a central and a projectile force. If the projectile velocity of the body be equal to what it would acquire in falling through the whole radius of a circle drawn around the central body as a center, by the force of gravity alone, the form of its orbit will be a parabola, having the central attracting body for its focus. If the projectile velocity be greater than is needed, to make its orbit a parabola the body will revolve in a hyperbola. If the projectile velocity be greater than the body would acquire by falling through one-half the radius of the circle and less than it would acquire by falling through the whole radius of the circle by the force of gravity alone, it will move in an elliptical orbit, having the central attracting body in one of its foci. And according as the projectile velocity within these limits exceeds what is necessary to make it move in a perfect circle, so will the elliptical orbit in which it revolves become more eccentric. If the projectile velocity, at right angles to the central attracting force, be exactly equal to what the body would acquire by falling through one-half the radius (of the supposed circle) toward the attracting body, by the force of gravity alone, it will move forever in a perfect circle. A double projectile force will always balance a quadruple power of gravity. Suppose one body is 100,000,000 miles from the central attracting body, and another is twice that distance; the second body will require double the projectile force, and four times the central attracting force, of the first, to move in a perfect circle. Now the shape of the curve of the earth's orbit being thus determined by the two forces acting upon it, it is plain that a change in the relation of these forces is necessary to bring about a change in the form of this curve. If the tangential force were weakened, the orbit would take the form of a smaller and more rounded ellipse; if this force were quite destroyed, the radiant force, or force of gravity, would at once draw the earth in a straight line to the sun. If the radiant force were weakened, the ellipse would be made larger, and if this force were destroyed, the earth would obey the tangential force, moving away from the point of tangency in a straight line until it found some other modifying force, or came within the attraction of another center. It must not be supposed that the slightest deviation from the present relative adjustment of forces, would plunge the earth into the sun, or throw it off into boundless space; it would merely cause the globe to adopt a new path, which would be as stable as the

other till changed by a new disturbance. A continued disturbance would of course culminate in final destruction. It is the opinion of scientists that there was a time when the earth's orbit was more eccentric, that is, was more elongated, than at present. This is one of the theories by which the intense cold of the glacial period is explained.

#### EARLY SEWING MACHINES.

OXFORD, Idaho.  
Was Elias Howe the first inventor of the sewing machine?  
H. A. JONES.

*Answer.*—Various attempts to apply the principles of machinery to the work of sewing were made before Howe's time. The first of these is contained in a patent granted to Robert Alsop in England, March 22, 1770, for embroidering in a loom with one, two, or more shuttles. A patent was also granted to Thomas Saint, July 17, 1790, for a machine intended "for quilting, stitching, and making shoes or other articles by means of tools and other machines." This machine used a forked needle, and could not have been used with woven cloth, but otherwise it had many of the elements of modern successful sewing machines. Saint, however, had not the means to work his invention, and it came to be quite forgotten until, some thirty years ago, his model was found in the archives of the patent office, and was put on exhibition at the Islington Museum, England. The first sewing machine put to actual use was one patented in France in 1830 by B. Thimonier. Eighty of these machines were at work in 1841 making army clothing in a Paris shop. They were destroyed by a mob, the working people regarding these labor-saving inventions as devices to rob them of work and support, but during the revolution Thimonier was again at work with other machines capable of making 200 stitches a minute. The mob again destroyed his establishment and threatened his life, and as he could not find any one who would aid him with more capital, through fear of the working people, he could make no further use of his invention and died in poverty in 1857. Thimonier had his machine patented in the United States in 1850, but having no friends in this country could not work it here. Before that time, however, two inventions of a similar kind had been made in the United States. Walter Hunt, of New York, invented a sewing machine working with a shuttle, making the lock stitch, but he failed to apply for a patent until 1854, when he found that Howe had preceded him with the same invention. A machine for making a through and through shoemaker's stitch was

patented Feb. 21, 1842, by J. J. Greenough, of Washington. This was designed for sewing leather and other hard substances. In 1844, a patent was granted in England to Fisher & Gibbons for working ornamental designs by machinery, in which two threads were looped together, one passing through the fabric, the other looping through it on the other side. The first patent on the Howe machine was granted in 1846. This was the beginning of the general application of the sewing machine to the uses of daily life, and Howe is, therefore, put on record as the father of this wonderful invention.

#### LYNCH LAW.

CHICAGO.

Some time ago Our Curiosity Shop gave a definition of this phrase, ascribing its origin to a self-constituted judge in Virginia. Its accepted definition in this country accords with this origin, as it is always held to signify the infliction of punishment upon criminals, without waiting for the ordinary forms of a trial. But the term is understood in quite a different sense in some parts of the old country, a fact which may be new to your readers. Last July Justice Harrison, in a speech at the Galway assizes, in Ireland, said with reference to some persons who had been guilty of some very atrocious offences, that the people of Galway should deal out "lynch law" to them. This expression shocked and surprised outsiders, but Galway people understood the justice's meaning. They knew that he did not counsel a violent disregard of the proper forms of law, but the meting out of due legal punishment to all offenders, at any sacrifice of personal feeling. It was an incident of Galway town that gave rise to this other meaning of "lynch law." In 1493 James Lynch was warden or mayor of Galway. His only son had murdered a young Spaniard named Gomez, his friend and guest, in a fit of jealousy concerning a beautiful young lady. The youth confessed his crime and was sentenced to death by his father. The young man was very popular and the people of Galway drew up petitions for his pardon, but the warden was inexorable. The day fixed for the execution came. It was reported that the people would resist the sentence by force, the soldiers could not be trusted, and the executioner refused to act. The father, therefore, in the spirit of stern justice, with his own hand hanged his son. A monument, a skull and cross-bones carved on a slab of black marble, was erected in 1524 on Lombard street, Galway, to commemorate this awful incident. Subsequently this was placed on the wall of

St. Nicholas churchyard, where it may still be seen. E. R.

**COLONEL ELMER E. ELLSWORTH.**

CHICAGO.  
Give a brief sketch of the life of Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth. O. MELVILLE.

*Answer.*—Elmer E. Ellsworth was born at Mechanicsville, N. Y., in 1837. He removed to Chicago before he was of age, and studied law here. In 1858 he was elected Assistant Paymaster General of Illinois. In 1859 he organized a zouave corps, which became noted for the excellence of its discipline. In 1860 this corps under its young commander made a tour of all the principal cities of the country. On their return Ellsworth went to Springfield to carry on his law studies with Mr. Lincoln. In March, 1861, he accompanied the Presidential party to Washington, and in April went to New York, where he organized the Eleventh New York Volunteers, or Fire Zouaves. He and his command were mustered into service at Washington May 7, 1861, the first regiment sworn in for the war. May 24 the regiment was transported in two steamers to Alexandria, Va. Marching up the streets of this town Ellsworth saw a rebel flag floating over a hotel. He entered the building, ascended to the roof, and tore the flag down. On the way downstairs the hotel-keeper met him and shot him dead.

**ST. MICHAEL'S MOUNT.**

FRANKFORT, ILL.

Give history of St. Michael's Mount, Cornwall, England. Who built the castle, and when? Was tin ore ever shipped from there? W. S. T.

*Answer.*—St. Michael's Mount is a high rocky promontory about a quarter of a mile from the coast of Cornwall, in Mount's Bay. In low water it can be reached by a causeway from the shore. The mount is about 1,400 feet high, and is more than one mile in circumference at its base. It is of a pyramid shape, but uneven in outline. Tin was shipped from this mountain in very early times, and before the invasion of Britain by the Romans the Phœnician vessels came thither for tin ore. Edward the Confessor gave the Isle of St. Michael's Mount to the Benedictine monks, who built a monastery upon it. The legend became current that St. Michael first descended to earth upon this mount, and pilgrimages were made to it. In the time of Richard I., the mount was fortified. In the time of Henry VII., Perkin Warbeck took his beautiful, high-born wife to the old priory of St. Michael's Mount and left her there while he made his last fatal attempt to gain the crown of England. Queen Elizabeth gave the promontory to Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, but Charles I. took possession of it, and turned its monastery into a fortified castle. This

king gave it to the Bassets, who in turn sold it to the St. Aubyn family, who still own it. At present only part of its fortress is standing, but part of the monastery remains and is used as a residence by the owners of the island. The ancient chapel is still standing also. There is a small town at the foot of the rock, whose inhabitants are principally engaged in the pilchard fisheries.

**TOBACCO CURING.**

HOLLY, Mich.

What is a simple method of curing the tobacco leaf? WARD WICKENS.

*Answer.*—Professor Jonathan Periam, a high authority, gives these directions in his thorough "American Encyclopedia of Agriculture": "Usually from three to four weeks from the time of topping, the plant will mature and be ready to cut. Uniform size of leaves and a stiffness of the leaf, making it liable to break by bending or handling, are the surest signs of maturity. Cut after the dew is off, but not during the middle of the day when the sun is bright, as you must guard against burning while it is undergoing the wilting process preparatory to spearing and handling in the removal to the shed. When sufficiently wilted, the plan most in practice is spearing or stringing up on laths four feet long, five or six plants on each lath, and then removing same into shed and hang up for curing. Distance between laths, general arrangement of shed and management thereof as to ventilation, admission of light, etc., must be attended to. Air and light, having a great influence on curing and fixing of color, must be used to the best advantage in catering to the tastes of the trade, which, by the way, are subject to frequent changes; sometimes light tobacco is in demand, and again dark only will meet a ready sale. Strange, but true, frequently when we have it dark the buyers want it light, and vice versa. In removing plants to the shed after cutting, various devices are used. Sleds, wagons in various styles, any way in which you succeed without breaking or bruising the leaf is a good way, and the quickest way, with these ends accomplished, is the best. By the middle of December, and after, whenever the plant is sufficiently pliable by moisture to strip or handle it without injury, you can strip it; assorting leaves is one of the prominent features in the stripping process. All solid leaves should be kept separate as wrappers, and these sorted into "hands" of ten or twelve leaves, each "hand" tied at the butt by a single leaf. The "hands" should then be assorted with reference to length into two or three sizes. All defective leaves should be treated alike

and put up separately; the respective qualities being bulked up separately ready for market. The packing or casing is generally done by parties buying from the grower."

#### THE MORTARA CASE.

AKRON, Ohio.

Give an account of the Mortara case, as it was called—the case of the abduction of a young boy in Rome about thirty years ago, and tell of Sir Moses Montefiore's efforts in connection with it.

READER.

**Answer.**—June 24, 1858, in Bologna, Italy, a child named Edgar Mortara was taken from the house of his parents, who were Jews. After some time the child's parents ascertained that he had been taken by a priest of the Romish Church, on the plea that he had been secretly baptized. It was some months before the child's father learned on what the plea was founded, that Anna Morisi, a former servant in his house, claimed to have baptized the child Edgar when he was about a year old and when she fancied him to be dangerously ill. The father protested concerning the circumstance to the authorities of the Romish Church, asserting: First, that the child at the time mentioned was ill, but not dangerously, and that therefore "the condition did not exist on which it is permitted to baptize the children of infidels *inuitus parentibus*, viz., the certainty of an inevitable death." Secondly, the event was not legally examined into, and if a man can not be deprived of his property without proofs of another's rights, how can he be robbed of his child on the mere assertion of a servant? And thirdly, the church should make sure that the girl—who at the time of the alleged baptism was but 14 years of age, and ignorant and inexperienced—"had fulfilled all the requirements of the baptismal rite with that zealous precision required for the validity of this sacramental act." He further cited a number of high clerical authorities to show the illegality of forced baptism. Being unable, however, to get any satisfaction from the civil authorities or those of the church, M. Mortara and the Jews at Bologna opened a correspondence with the principal Hebrew communities and with many persons of distinction professing various religious creeds, in Europe and America. In England especially not only the Hebrews but the Evangelical Society also took an active part in the endeavor to secure the restoration of the child. Sir Moses Montefiore, as one of the most influential Jews in Europe, was asked to go to Rome and, if possible, to interview the Pope in the matter. Sir Moses, always ready to take part in every good word and work, promptly undertook the mission. He went to Rome and succeeded in having an audience with Cardinal

Antonelli. This dignitary declined to discuss the case of the Mortara child, which he said was then a "closed question," but he said every precaution would be taken to prevent the recurrence of like unfortunate circumstances in the future. As the child had been baptized it was assumed that he was a Christian, and the church could not give him up until he was 17 or 18 years old, when he would be free to follow his own inclinations. "In the meantime the parents might be allowed free access to the boy. He should be well educated and taken care of, but the laws of the church forbade that he should be given back to his parents." This was all the satisfaction that Sir Moses could get. He could not secure an audience with the Pope, though he made repeated endeavors to do so, and, after spending over a month at Rome, and finding that nothing could be accomplished toward gaining possession of the child, he returned to England. The case was rendered more hopeless by the fact that during the time of Sir Montefiore's stay in Rome, the silly old charge against the Jews of stealing and killing Christian children to mix their blood with the passover cakes, was revived in Rome and in other Italian cities, and produced a condition of great popular excitement. This gave the authorities of the church a semblance of justification for their refusal to open the Mortara case again, lest by so doing a popular furor against the Jews would be raised, which would not be easily quelled, and which, no doubt, would cause rioting and bloodshed.

#### SILKWORM CULTURE.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.

Give a brief history of silkworm culture. Where was it first known and by whom introduced?

H. WARREN.

**Answer.**—The culture of the silkworm and the manufacture of silk originated in China, probably in very early times. Chinese historians assert that the wife of the Emperor Hwang-ti, in 2,600 B. C., was the first who unwound the silkworm's cocoon. Before the time of the Christian era silk fiber was brought from the Orient to the islands of the Mediterranean, and there manufactured, but the silkworm was wholly unknown in Europe or in Western Asia prior to the sixth century. About 550 A. D. two Persian monks brought from China to Constantinople some silkworms' eggs, concealed in hollow canes, which they used as walking-staves, and the white mulberry tree, the worm's natural *habitat*, was introduced immediately after. The silk industry spread through European Turkey, Greece, Italy, and Spain. The worms were not raised in France until the sixteenth century. Silkworm cult-

ure was early tried in the American colonies, the first silkworm eggs being sent to Virginia by James I. Tobacco, however, displaced the silk industry there, but the worm was successfully raised in several of the Southern States before the Revolutionary war. Cotton becoming the staple of those States later the silk industry was displaced. In Connecticut and Massachusetts also the culture of the silkworm was carried on considerably in the early part of the present century. During the last twenty-five years there has been an especial effort made to promote the raising of silkworms in different parts of the United States. California seems to be the only State where any large amount of capital has been invested in the business thus far, but in very many places in the Eastern and Southern States it is carried on with good results on a small scale.

#### THE PARSEES TOWERS OF SILENCE.

HYDE PARK, III.

What and where are the Parsee Towers of Silence?  
L. M. C.

*Answer.*—The "Towers of Silence" are the burial places of the Parsees of India. This people are descended from the early Persians—the fire worshipers, or Ghebers. That ancient race disposed of its dead by exposing them to wild beasts or birds of prey; the use of these towers shows how this custom has survived. The Towers of Silence in Bombay are built in a beautiful garden, which is approached by a well-constructed private road; and is inclosed by a strong iron railing and gates. The towers are five in number, and are solidly made of black granite. The oldest was built during the seventeenth century, and is the smallest of all. The next was built in 1756, the others later. Each tower is a round column, about twelve feet high and forty feet in diameter, built of solid stone, except in the center, where a well about five feet in diameter extends down the tower to an excavation under ground, with four drains at right angles to each other, terminated by holes filled with charcoal. Round this stone cylinder is a parapet, also of stone, about ten feet high, which conceals from view the interior. The upper surface of the solid stone work is divided into seventy-two open receptacles, radiating like the spokes of a wheel from the central well, and arranged in three concentric rings, separated by narrow ridges of stone, grooved to act as channels for conveying all moisture from the receptacles into the well, and thus to the lower drains. Each circle of the open compartment is divided from the next by a pathway, making three circular pathways, and these are crossed

by another from the outer door. The bodies are brought in through this door and laid in one or the other of the open receptacles on the stone. The account given by Professor Monier Williams, who visited these towers in 1876, shows what becomes of the bodies here placed. He says: "Though wholly destitute of ornament and even the simplest moldings, the parapet of each tower possesses an extraordinary coping, which instantly attracts and fascinates the gaze. It is a coping formed not of dead stone, but of living vultures. These birds had settled themselves side by side in perfect order, and in a complete circle around the parapets of the towers, with their heads pointing inward, and so lazily did they sit there and so motionless was their whole mien that, except for their color, they might have been carved out of the stonework." This same writer describes a funeral which he witnessed: "While engaged in examining the work, a sudden stir among the vultures made us raise our heads. At least a hundred birds, collected around one of the towers, began to show symptoms of excitement, while others swooped down from the neighboring trees. A funeral was seen to be approaching. The body, swathed in a white sheet, is placed in a curved metal trough, open at both ends, and the corpse bearers, dressed in pure white garments, proceed with it toward the towers. The funeral I witnessed was that of a child. When the two corpse bearers reached a path leading by a steep incline to the door of the tower, the mourners, about eight in number, turned back and entered one of the prayer houses. The two bearers unlocked the door, reverently conveyed the body of the child to the interior, and, unseen by any one, laid it uncovered in one of the open receptacles nearest the central well. In two minutes they reappeared with the empty bier and the white cloth, and scarcely had they closed the door when a dozen vultures swooped down upon the body and were rapidly followed by others. In five minutes more the satiated birds fly back and lazily settle down again on the parapet. They have left nothing behind but a skeleton." The Parsees have adopted this mode of burial, they say, in accordance with the teachings of their great apostle Zoroaster. He taught that the elements, earth, fire, and water, were sacred, and should not be defiled by contact with putrifying flesh. The decaying particles of human bodies, therefore, should be scattered and destroyed as soon as possible and in such a way that neither the cattle nor any beings that are supported by the earth can be contaminated in any degree. For this reason they place their dead upon

high towers above all human habitations, and they believe that the vultures are sent by God to remove the dead flesh in the most rapid possible way. The rain water that washes the skeletons is conducted by channels through a bed of charcoal so that the work of purification is quite complete.

#### GRACE DARLING.

Give the story of the English heroine, Grace Darling. When did she die?

CHICAGO.

READER.

*Answer.*—Grace Darling was born at Bamborough, Eng., Nov. 24, 1815. Her father kept the light-house on Longstone, one of the most exposed of the Farne Islands. Grace was well brought up, and received the elements of a sound education, principally under the tuition of a good and sensible mother, for most of her life was spent with the rest of her family on the lonely island of Longstone. She was 23 years old when the incident occurred which, without expectation and intent on her part, made her famous. Sept. 5, 1838, the steamer *Forfarshire* left Hull for Dundee with forty passengers aboard and a crew of twenty-four men. Her boilers, it was thought afterward, were defective when she started, and when off the Northumberland coast she encountered a violent gale, wherein a boiler was so injured from the rolling of the vessel, that the water escaped and put the fire out. At 9 o'clock at night the engine stopped and the vessel was left at the mercy of the storm. The Longstone light-house could be seen and the captain tried to tack the vessel between the islands, but the waves were so violent this was impossible. At about 8 o'clock in the morning the vessel ran on a rock. The long boat was lowered and several of the passengers got into it, then the force of the waves tore it away from the ship. Strange to say the small boat was not swamped but managed to keep adrift and was picked up the next day by a sloop. But the fate of those left on the steamer was terrible. At the second shock the vessel broke in two. The prow alone was firm on the rock and to this clung the few passengers still left. Some of the accounts of the wreck tell how Grace Darling lay awake and heard the shock of the breaking vessel and the cries of its terrified passengers, and roused her father to go to their aid. But the official report of the wreck, given by Mr. Darling himself just after its occurrence, tells the story very differently. It would have been impossible, with a violent gale blowing from the light-house toward the wreck, for any sounds from the latter to reach the former spot. Mr. Darling says that he and his daughter rose on that morning a short time

after 4 o'clock, according to their custom, to be ready for the rise of the tide. At a little before 5 Grace saw that a vessel had broken upon the point known as Harker's rock, but owing to darkness and the tossing spray, neither she nor her father could make out whether there were any persons on the rock. It was nearly 7 o'clock when, as the tide was turning, the young girl, straining her eyes in the direction of the wrecked vessel, saw that there were men clinging to it. Without losing a moment therefore, the young woman and her father launched a boat and steered through the still raging storm toward the wreck. One of the historians of this thrilling incident notes the fact that no one unfamiliar with the location of the Farne Islands can fully understand how heroic this deed of the light-house keeper and his daughter really was. Leaving the light-house the boat had to pass southward through an opening between Longstone and the next island called Blue Caps, which lay in an east and west line between Longstone and Harker Island, on which was the wreck of the ship. Going out through this perilous passage on their way to the wreck the boat went before the wind, returning it would have to be rowed against the gale, a task that would require much greater strength than the other. Both Grace Darling and her father knew perfectly well that if they found no one on the wreck able to aid them in rowing the boat they could never get back to the light-house again. They found nine persons alive on the wreck, eight men and one woman. They took the woman and four of the men back to the light-house, and then while Grace, with her mother's aid, provided for the comfort of their unexpected visitors, Mr. Darling and two of the men returned and brought away the others in safety. The survivors were cared for at the light-house for three days before they could be taken to the mainland. The story of Grace Darling's brave deed raised a perfect transport of enthusiasm throughout Great Britain and a fund of £700 was raised for her. She did not live long to enjoy her wealth; indeed, she did not care for it except as a provision for her parents. Grace Darling died in 1842, and lies buried in a handsome tomb on the seashore at Bamborough, within sight of the scene of her heroic exploit.

#### FEDERAL AND STATE TROOPS.

A correspondent of Fairfield, Ill., inquired: Is it true (as I have often heard it stated) that the troops of a State cannot be ordered out of the State?

During the war of the rebellion the United States Government was not all times able to protect the Northern States from invasion, and the

Governors of such States were compelled to call for volunteers for its defense. Such, for instance, was the case when the rebel General Lee invaded the State of Pennsylvania in June, 1863. When the Governor (A. G. Curtin) called for volunteers to serve during the emergency I was one of those volunteers, and I know we were marched out of the State, and as far south as Fredericktown, in Maryland—almost to Harper's Ferry.

Now, then, the question with me is, Were we in the State or United States service, and are such troops entitled to any of the benefits of the pension laws passed by Congress?

My discharge is from the service of the State of Pennsylvania.

GEORGE L. HEIDINGER.

We referred this letter to the Adjutant General of Illinois, who replied as follows:

"In reply to your inquiry, as per inclosed (herewith returned) letter, I have the honor to inform you that men called into service by the Governor of a State should serve in the State only, as the troops of one State can not enter another, armed and equipped, without a permit to do so. The service performed by Mr. Heidinger in the case as stated by him, was service for the State. The National Government must first accept troops and muster them in its own service before considering them troops in the United States army. I should say that Mr. Heidinger would not be considered as entitled to the benefits of the pension laws under the rulings of the Pension Office.

"I do not know what the military law was in force in Pennsylvania in 1863, at the time Gov. Curtin ordered his State troops as far south as Fredericktown, Md., but the emergency was there, and the Governor acted on his patriotic impulse and sent the troops where, in his opinion, they were badly needed. The discharge being from the 'State of Pennsylvania' proves that the service was not considered United States service. Very respectfully,  
"JOSEPH W. VANCE, Adjutant General."

#### VOODOOISM.

TROY, Kan.

Please give the correct spelling, derivation, and the full meaning of the term "voodoo," or "voudoo." I know that in a general way it is connected with Southern negro witchcraft; but I can not find the word in any dictionary or encyclopedia at my command. There are also different ways in which it is spelled—"voudoo," "voodoo," and "voudoo"—and I presume the negro term "hoodoo" is meant for the same word. Therefore, I desire the correct spelling, and to know what it was probably derived from. It sounds French, from which I judge it is of Louisiana origin.

*Answer.*—The new Webster's dictionary, called Webster's International Dictionary, gives the following: "Voodooism: [probably (through Creole French *vaudoux*, a negro somerer) fr. *vaudois* Waldensian, because the Waldenses were accused of sorcery.] A degraded form of superstition and sorcery,

said to include human sacrifices and cannibalism in some of its rites. It is prevalent among the negroes of Hayti, and to some extent in the United States, and is regarded as a relic of African barbarism."

#### THE TWO-THIRDS RULE.

NATIONAL HOME, Wis.

Give a full account of the adoption of the two-thirds rule in the Democratic National Convention. When was it first proposed? What candidate was thus first nominated?

J. BREWSTER.

*Answer.*—This rule was adopted in the same year that nominating conventions and distinctive party platforms were adopted—1832. In that year the National Democrats met in Baltimore. It was a foregone conclusion that Mr. Jackson would be run for a second term by the party, as he had received the nomination of the Democrats in nearly all the States, but the principal work before the convention was nominating a Vice President. On the second day of the convention the committee on rules reported the following:

*Resolved*, That each State be entitled, in the nomination to be made, of a candidate for the Vice Presidency, to a number of votes equal to the number to which they will be entitled in the electoral colleges, under the new apportionment, in voting for President and Vice President, and that two-thirds of the votes in the convention shall be necessary to constitute a choice.

This was the origin of the famous two-thirds rule, by which all subsequent Democratic conventions have governed themselves in making nominations. There has been strong opposition to it many times, but it has always been carried in the face of all objection. On the first ballot under this rule Martin Van Buren, as candidate for Vice President, had 208 votes, which, as it was two-thirds of all the votes, caused him to be declared the nominee.

#### AGRICULTURE IN PALESTINE.

CHICAGO.

Give a description of the agricultural facilities of Palestine, and some account of the culture of the vine there.

J. S. GRAHAM.

*Answer.*—The plains and valleys of Palestine have a remarkably fertile soil, though the mountains are barren. The valley south of Bethlehem is irrigated and well cultivated, and presents a beautiful appearance, but in much of the country agriculture is greatly neglected. Nearly all the fruits of sub-tropical climes can be grown there, the olive, fig, pomegranate, citron, and orange; also the fruits of temperate climes, the apple, pear, and apricot. Palestine has always been famous for its grapes, which are remarkable both for their size and their fine flavor. There are traces in some parts of the country, of the extensive culture

of grapes for wine in ancient times, but very little attempt is now made to cultivate the vine for commercial purposes. The olive is more extensively grown, and considerable oil is made from it, the most of which is consumed at home. Wheat and other cereals are raised successfully. Rice is grown on the marshy shores of the Jordan and some of the lakes. Peas, beans, and potatoes are also cultivated, and, to some extent, tobacco, cotton, and the sugar cane. However, all the agriculture is of a rude and negligent character, the tools used being of a primitive, clumsy kind, and in place of fences there are only low stone walls and hedges, the former being generally broken and dilapidated, the latter untrimmed and irregular. Large numbers of sheep and goats are raised, but not many cattle. There is no doubt that the resources of Palestine might be much more extensively developed than they are at present, but little improvement in this line is likely to be attempted, nor indeed would it prove very profitable, until the means of transportation in the country are improved. There is but one road in the country that is fit for carriages—the one from Jerusalem to Jaffa; all the others are mere paths that can only be traversed by horses, asses, mules, or camels—the latter being the beast of burden most generally used for conveying freight of any kind.

#### THE LOGAN STONE.

FRANKFORT, ILL.

Give the history of the Logan Stone, near Land's End, England. Who was it that pushed it over and put it up again, and when did this happen?

W. S. T.

*Answer.*—The Logan Stone is near Penzance, in Mount's Bay, Cornwall, England, about eleven miles from Land's End. This famous stone rises on the summit of a bold promontory of granite, which extends some distance out in the bay. It is believed to weigh ninety tons, and yet it is so perfectly poised where it stands that a touch can set it rocking. It rests by its center only on a flat, broad rock, the lower rock resting on several others that stretch around it on all sides. The pivot on which the Logan stone is so easily moved is a small protrusion on its base, on all sides of which the whole surrounding weight of rock is, by accident of nature, so exactly equalized as to keep the enormous mass poised on this little neck. In 1824, Lieutenant Goldsmith, an officer of the royal navy, was told of an ancient prophecy that no human power could ever succeed in overturning the Logan Stone. He laid a wager that he could do it in spite of the prophecy. He went to the point with a half-dozen

men and as many levers. These levers he had placed under the stone at one side, and at the word "heave" the great stone was thrown from its pinnacle. In falling the stone was caught in a crevice in the rock. The people of Penzance were very indignant at this desecration of their ancient landmark, and the admiralty commanded the lieutenant to put the stone back. The young man did so, but it was a very difficult and expensive task. It was raised by means of beams, ropes, and pulleys; a large number of workmen were needed, and it took them a week to get the work done. The lieutenant had to pay for it all. It took him several years, for he was poor and without friends, and his health gave way in the effort, so that he had no sooner made the last payment than he died. The poise of the rock is said to be less perfect since it was moved than before.

#### THE FIFTH OHIO INDEPENDENT BATTERY.

GLENDALE, Cal.

Give a brief history of the Fifth Ohio Battery of Light Artillery.

H. H. D.

*Answer.*—The Fifth Ohio Independent Battery of Light Artillery was organized in September, 1861, but was not supplied with arms and guns until the following January. The battery was then sent to Savannah, Tenn., and thence to Pittsburg Landing. April 5 they joined the command of General Prentiss, who was camped near Shiloh Church. In the early part of the action on the following day many of their horses were killed, and the infantry support falling back, two pieces of artillery were captured by the enemy. The Fifth was then ordered back, but later in the day it took part in the fight under General Sherman. This was the battery's first battle, and it lost one man killed and twenty wounded, sixty-five horses, several guns, and all its equipage. The battery took part in General Grant's Mississippi campaign in the fall of 1862. The surrender of Holly Springs and the loss of a large amount of stores compelled the Federal army to fall back. Jan. 5, 1863, the division marched to Holly Springs, burning everything along their line, and also burned the town before they left it. In May the battery left Memphis for Vicksburg, and June 1 took position in the besieging army on a hill in advance of the main line. After the surrender the Fifth went in pursuit of Johnston, and aided in the capture of Jackson. The division was then ordered to Helena, Ark., where there was much sickness, and fourteen members of the battery died. Sept. 20, 1864, the Fifth Battery, with the exception of fifteen men who had re-enlisted as veterans, was mustered out. It was then reorganized with new recruits, Captain Hickenlooper in com-



mand. The new battery was never in action, and was mustered out July 31, 1865.

## GOVERNORS OF DAKOTA TERRITORY.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.

Will Our Curiosity Shop please give a list of the Governors of Dakota Territory; that is, from its organization as a territory in March, 1861, to its admission as a State in 1889?

WM. A. NEUBRAND.

The following list gives the information desired:

William Jayne.....	1861-63
Newton Edmunds.....	1863-66
Andrew J. Faulk.....	1866-69
John A. Burbank.....	1869-74
John L. Percinington.....	1874-78
Wm. A. Howard.....	1878-80
N. J. Ordway.....	1880-84
G. A. Pierce.....	1884-87
L. K. Church.....	1887-89
Arthur C. Mellette.....	1889

## GOLD AND SILVER MONEY.

RENSSELAER, Ind.

Will the Curiosity Shop answer the following: 1. Give the purchase price paid and manner of payment by the Government for the gold and silver which is coined into money. 2. What are the channels through which the people get the money from the Government? 3. What is the exact cost of the silver and gold, and the expense of coining a silver and gold dollar? 4. If a dollar in gold or silver does not cost the Government a dollar, who has the benefit of the margin? F. FOLTZ.

1. The Government does not purchase gold for purposes of coinage; it coins it for private individuals only. Formerly a charge of one-fifth of 1 per cent was made for converting standard gold bullion into coin, but this charge was abrogated under the act of Jan. 14, 1875, for the resumption of specie payments. The depositor, however, pays for the copper used in alloying his gold. All deposits of gold are paid for in gold or in gold certificates. Silver, however, under the act of Feb. 28, 1878, can not be coined for private individuals. The Government must purchase a stipulated amount of silver bullion each month at the market price and have it coined into dollars as fast as purchased. The gain arising from the transaction, through the difference in the price of bullion and that of coined dollars, is paid into the Treasury. The market price to be paid by the Government for silver bullion must not exceed \$1.29 per ounce, at which figure it would reach par with gold at our legal ratio; should speculation force it above this price, the Secretary of the Treasury is compelled under the law to cease purchasing it. Silver bullion is paid for in silver dollars; or, for convenience, in silver certificates, leaving the dollars in the Treasury vaults. 2. It will be seen, from the above statements, that nearly all the coined gold and silver passes directly into the hands of the people through the equivalent of Treasury certificates for the coin. It also passes out of the Treasury by way of pensions, wages, appropriations, etc.

It can only be paid out by means of warrants signed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and this officer can only order such payments when authorized to do so by an act of Congress. 3. The cost of silver and gold as bullion varies. At present writing silver is \$1.20 per ounce and gold is \$1.29. The price of silver has been raised through the stimulation of large purchases thereof under the new silver law. The former seignorage or coinage charges for the two metals, give the approximate expense, no doubt, of coining silver and gold dollars. The charge for converting standard gold bullion into coin was one-fifth of 1 per cent; for converting silver into trade dollars it was usually 50 cents per 100 pieces, though this latter charge varied somewhat, and was fixed from time to time by the superintendent of the mint, so as to equal but not to exceed the average cost. There was also additional charge when the two metals were combined in the bullion purchased. The charges for refining and separating silver from gold—the gold being in excess—varied from one cent to six cents an ounce, those for refining and separating gold from silver—the silver predominating—from one-third of one cent to six cents an ounce. 4. A dollar in silver certainly does not cost the Government a dollar, and it reaps all the benefit of that margin.

## THE GECKO.

AUGUSTA, Ill.

In Henry D. Northrop's "Wonders of the Tropics" I find the following: "Along the walls of the houses dart and glide the nocturnal little Gekkos, the greedy but otherwise inoffensive father of leprosy." Is it understood that leprosy originates from contact direct or indirect with these little reptiles? Tell something about them. D. J. KNISS.

Answer.—The Geckotids are a family of the thick-tongued lizards, of which there are many species distributed in various parts of the world, generally in hot climates. They are abundant in Southern Asia, and in Africa. One species is common in the South of Europe, inhabiting all the countries bordering on the Mediterranean. Another is well known in the West Indies. These little animals have large, protruding eyes, and short legs, at the ends of which five flat toes, nearly equal in length, spread out. The toes have no claws, but, to aid them in climbing, each one is dilated at the lower part, forming a sort of a disk, from the under side of which a sticky fluid exudes. By means of this apparatus, the little animals are enabled to run up a perpendicular wall rapidly, and they can even walk across a ceiling with their heads downward. They usually conceal themselves during the day, and creep about only in the night. These animals are perfectly harmless,

but are of such a repulsive appearance, that they are objects of fear, and it is frequently asserted, though altogether mistakenly, that they are venomous. The term "father of leprosy," given to the Egyptian gecko is entirely imaginative. It probably had its origin from the fact that the scaly and tuberculous excrescences that cover the back of the lizard resemble the thickened, callous protuberances of the skin that appear in leprosy. The gecko is really a useful animal, feeding on flies and other insects.

#### UNITED STATES SENATE—FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS,

WAUPUN, Wis.

Give in our Curiosity Shop the names of present United States Senators by States, including politics and length of term.

D. L. BANCROFT.

*Answer.*—The following list gives the information desired:

State.	Name of Senator.	Time expires.
Alabama.....	{ John T. Morgan, D.....1895 James L. Pugh, D.....1891	
Arkansas.....	{ James H. Berry, D.....1895 James K. Jones, D.....1891	
California.....	{ George Hearst, D.....1893 Leland Stanford, R.....1891	
Colorado.....	{ E. O. Wolcott, R.....1895 Henry M. Teller, R.....1891	
Connecticut.....	{ Joseph R. Hawley, R.....1893 Orville H. Platt, R.....1891	
Delaware.....	{ Anthony Higgins, R.....1895 George Gray, D.....1893	
Florida.....	{ Samuel Pasco, D.....1893 Wilkinson Call, D.....1891	
Georgia.....	{ Alfred H. Colquitt, D.....1895 Joseph E. Brown, D.....1891	
Illinois.....	{ Shelby M. Cullom, R.....1895 Charles B. Farwell, R.....1891	
Indiana.....	{ David S. Turpie, D.....1893 Daniel W. Voorhees, D.....1891	
Iowa.....	{ James F. Wilson, R.....1895 William B. Allison, R.....1891	
Kansas.....	{ Preston B. Plumb, R.....1893 John J. Ingalls, R.....1891	
Kentucky.....	{ John G. Carlisle, D.....1895 Joseph O. S. Blackburn, D.....1891	
Louisiana.....	{ Randall L. Gibson, D.....1895 James B. Eustis, D.....1891	
Maine.....	{ William P. Frye, R.....1895 Eugene Hale, R.....1893	
Maryland.....	{ Arthur P. Gorman, D.....1893 Ephraim K. Wilson, D.....1891	
Massachusetts.....	{ George F. Hoar, R.....1895 Henry L. Dawes, R.....1893	
Michigan.....	{ James McMillan, R.....1895 F. B. Stockbridge, R.....1893	
Minnesota.....	{ William D. Washburn, R.....1895 Cushman K. Davis, R.....1893	
Mississippi.....	{ E. C. Walthall, D.....1895 James Z. George, D.....1893	
Missouri.....	{ Francis M. Cockrell, D.....1893 George G. Vest, D.....1891	
Montana.....	{ T. C. Powers, R.....1895 W. F. Sanders, R.....1893	
Nebraska.....	{ Charles F. Manderson, R.....1895 A. S. Paddock, R.....1893	
Nevada.....	{ W. M. Stewart, R.....1893 John P. Jones, R.....1891	
New Hampshire.....	{ William E. Chandler, R.....1895 Henry W. Blair, R.....1891	
New Jersey.....	{ John R. McPherson, D.....1895 Rufus Blodgett, D.....1893	

New York.....	{ Frank Hiccock, R.....1893 William M. Everts, R.....1891	
North Carolina.....	{ Matt. W. Ransom, D.....1895 Zebulon B. Vance, D.....1891	
North Dakota.....	{ Lyman R. Casey, R.....1893 Gilbert A. Pierce, R.....1891	
Ohio.....	{ John Sherman, R.....1893 Henry B. Payne, D.....1891	
Oregon.....	{ Joseph Dolph, R.....1895 John H. Mitchell, R.....1891	
Pennsylvania.....	{ Matthew S. Quay, R.....1893 James Donald Cameron, R.....1891	
Rhode Island.....	{ Nathan F. Dixon, R.....1895 Nelson W. Aldrich, R.....1893	
South Carolina.....	{ M. C. Butler, D.....1895 Wade Hampton, D.....1891	
South Dakota.....	{ F. T. Pettigrew, R.....1895 Gideon C. Moody, R.....1891	
Tennessee.....	{ Isham G. Harris, D.....1895 William B. Bate, D.....1893	
Texas.....	{ Richard Coke, D.....1895 J. H. Reagan, D.....1893	
Vermont.....	{ George F. Edmunds, R.....1893 Justin S. Morrill, R.....1891	
Virginia.....	{ John S. Barbour, D.....1895 John W. Daniel, D.....1893	
Washington.....	{ J. B. Allen, R.....1893 W. C. Squire, R.....1891	
West Virginia.....	{ John E. Kenna, D.....1895 C. J. Faulkner, D.....1891	
Wisconsin.....	{ Philletus Sawyer, R.....1893 John C. Spooner, R.....1891	

#### FREDERICK SCHWATKA.

CHICAGO.

Give a brief biographical sketch of Lieutenant Frederick Schwatka, V. K. KOLMAN.

*Answer.*—Frederick Schwatka was born at Galena, Ill., Sept. 29, 1849. He graduated at West Point in 1871, and served against the Indians in Arizona. In his leisure hours in garrison he studied law and was admitted to the bar, but never practiced. In similar manner he studied medicine, and, getting a leave of absence, went East and took a diploma at a medical college. Soon after, the desire for an adventurous life taking hold of him again, he rejoined his regiment, took part in several engagements with the Indians, and then obtained leave of absence to command the Franklin expedition to the Arctic regions, which sailed June 19, 1878. The expedition cleared up much of the mystery that had shrouded the fate of the expedition of Sir John Franklin by its discoveries. It found many traces of that expedition, located its camps, and buried a number of the skeletons of those unfortunate heroes. The expedition returned in September, 1880. A second expedition for the exploration of the Yukon River was immediately sent out under Schwatka, which penetrated much farther up this great Alaskan stream than any previous explorers had done. In 1884 Lieutenant Schwatka rejoined his regiment, but soon after resigned his commission and devoted himself to literature. In 1888 he conducted an exploring expedition through Sonora and other parts of Mexico, and located a number

of ruined temples and buildings never before explored, and in 1889 he undertook another expedition to Mexico for THE INTER OCEAN, and found veritable cliff and cave dwellers, and brought some of them to the United States. He has written much in magazines and periodicals concerning his travels.

## UNITED STATES CROPS.

OCHEYEDAN, Iowa.

Will Our Curiosity Shop please give, in the order of their production, the principal agricultural staples of the United States? Also, the State which ranks first in each staple. W. F. HUNT.

*Answer.*—The subjoined table shows the corn, wheat, and oat crops for 1889 as stated by the United States Department of Agriculture in their report recently issued.

	CORN.	WHEAT.	OATS.
Maine.....	1,034,000	589,000	2,764,000
New Hampshire.....	1,311,000	144,000	956,000
Vermont.....	2,044,000	325,000	3,324,000
Massachusetts.....	1,997,000	.....	646,000
Rhode Island.....	393,000	.....	170,000
Connecticut.....	1,766,000	30,000	1,009,000
New York.....	20,475,000	8,929,000	36,009,000
New Jersey.....	10,792,000	1,711,000	3,408,000
Pennsylvania.....	41,225,000	16,617,000	34,504,000
Delaware.....	3,905,000	1,100,000	420,000
Maryland.....	15,105,000	6,171,000	2,203,000
Virginia.....	34,231,000	6,804,000	9,166,000
North Carolina.....	33,050,000	4,492,000	6,941,000
South Carolina.....	18,310,000	1,191,000	4,129,000
Georgia.....	33,730,000	2,383,000	6,874,000
Florida.....	5,206,000	.....	568,000
Alabama.....	33,944,000	2,502,000	3,950,000
Mississippi.....	29,474,000	494,000	3,656,000
Louisiana.....	18,949,000	.....	396,000
Texas.....	33,698,000	6,189,000	14,808,000
Arkansas.....	42,608,000	1,794,000	4,848,000
Tennessee.....	80,831,000	9,085,000	8,179,000
West Virginia.....	15,199,000	3,144,000	2,520,000
Kentucky.....	75,382,000	10,811,000	9,456,000
Ohio.....	88,953,000	36,865,000	36,615,000
Michigan.....	22,737,000	23,709,000	30,469,000
Indiana.....	106,656,000	41,187,000	27,317,000
Illinois.....	259,125,000	38,014,000	135,364,000
Wisconsin.....	28,415,000	16,397,000	52,697,000
Minnesota.....	21,263,000	45,456,000	53,128,000
Iowa.....	349,966,000	21,023,000	99,459,000
Missouri.....	218,841,000	20,639,000	36,384,000
Kansas.....	240,508,000	30,912,000	37,527,000
Nebraska.....	149,543,000	16,848,000	29,963,000
California.....	4,464,000	43,381,000	1,899,000
Oregon.....	157,000	13,689,000	5,432,000
Nevada.....	.....	335,000	.....
Colorado.....	1,092,000	1,851,000	3,129,000
Arizona.....	.....	337,000	.....
Dakota.....	14,743,000	41,652,000	23,290,000
Idaho.....	.....	1,449,000	1,000,000
New Mexico.....	1,126,000	1,096,000	340,000
Montana.....	.....	1,539,000	2,578,000
Utah.....	644,000	1,880,000	916,000
Washington.....	.....	6,856,000	3,082,000
Totals.....	2,112,892,000	490,560,000	715,515,000

## A TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT.

REED'S GROVE, Ill.

What is the true origin of the expression, "a tempest in a tea-pot?"

STUDENT.

*Answer.*—This phrase, which has been applied in a number of historical instances, is probably of very ancient origin. Cicero quotes a similar phrase, as though well known in his time, "He raised a tempest in a ladle, as the saying is." An author of the third century makes one famous musician ridicule another who had attempted to imitate a storm

at sea in one of his musical compositions with the expression: "I have seen a greater tempest in a boiling pot." The French form of the phrase (a tempest in a glass of water) was applied to the famous insurrectionary movement in the Republic of Geneva in the seventeenth century. Historians generally ascribe this application of the phrase to Paul, then Grand Duke of Russia; others say that the Austrian Duke Leopold originated it. The English phrase is evidently taken from the French, the word "tea-pot" being used for the sake of alliteration.

## JOHN LAW AND HIS GREAT SCHEME.

GALESBURG, Ill.

Give a brief sketch of John Law, and describe his financial system. G. D. BUTTERFIELD.

*Answer.*—John Law was born in Edinburgh in 1671. He received an excellent education, and possessed good abilities, but early fell into habits of dissipation and idleness. About 1694 he went to London, where, by means of a handsome figure and graceful manner, he gained admission into fashionable society and supported himself by gaming. Having killed a man in a duel, he fled to the continent. He went first to Holland, and, after making a special study of banking for some months, he worked out a scheme for the establishment of a government bank, which, having control of all the revenues of the state, should issue notes on them as capital, and at the same time make a profit by discounting. He offered this scheme to the governments both of Scotland and France, but it was approved of by neither. For several years Law went from one continental city to another, and amassed an enormous fortune by gambling. Because of his polished manners and his wealth, he had obtained great influence and favor with the Duke of Orleans, who had become regent of France on the death of Louis XIV. In 1716 he established a bank under royal authority, which was empowered to discount bills of exchange, and to issue notes redeemable in the coin of the realm. This bank took government notes at par, which were elsewhere discounted at 80 per cent, and this caused it to stand in high favor so that it soon had a lucrative business established. But Law was not satisfied with this. He therefore established a stock company called the "Company of the West," which leased from the government all the French possessions in Mississippi, Louisiana, and the West Indies. Subsequently it absorbed the possessions of the crown in the East Indies also. This company was capitalized in 624,000 shares at 550 livres each, and pledged itself to lend the government over a billion livres at 3 per cent. The most extrav-

agent stories got afloat concerning the enormous revenues that were to be obtained from the colonies, and these forced the shares in the Mississippi scheme, as it was called, up to thirty or forty times their original value. The large issue of paper money by the bank also produced an unnatural inflation of all prices, and the prospects of great wealth brought about a perfect epidemic of speculation throughout the kingdom. Law was then made Comptroller General of the finances of the kingdom, and his power was absolute. But as there was no increase of revenue from the colonial possessions, and as people soon began to see that there was no basis for John Law's financial scheme but a remote possibility of future gains, of course a crash had to come. The shares began to fall in value. Then the government reduced the value of the notes to one-half and the bank stopped cash payments. Then Law was removed from his office and a government decree declared the notes of the bank to be of no value after Nov. 1, 1720. Law had to flee for his life from the country. It is supposed that he was a sincere believer in his own scheme, as he laid by no money during its prosperous era, and when he escaped had but a small sum with him. Law traveled from one European country to another for several years, and finally returned to England. Until the death of his friend, the Regent of France, he received from the French government a pension of 20,000 livres annually. Until this time, also, he seems to have had some hope of reviving his company. But he then sank into obscurity and died, poor and neglected, in Venice, May 21, 1729.

#### MANGANESE.

SHELBY, Mich.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop tell us about manganese, its properties, uses and value?

D. V. JACKWAY.

*Answer.*—Manganese is a metal, or rather a metallic chemical element—for excepting its occurrence in small quantity in association with iron in meteoric stones it is never found otherwise than in chemical combination, which is very widely diffused through the mineral kingdom. It is of a grayish-white color, is so hard as to scratch glass and steel, but brittle; is non-magnetic, and is only fused at a white heat. It has a brilliant surface, and is susceptible of a high degree of polish, but tarnishes rapidly on exposure to the air, rusts quickly when moist, and is readily affected by acid. The minerals in which manganese occurs in large quantities are quite scarce. The most important of these is the black oxide of manganese, or pyrolusite, which is found in several parts of Germany and also in Spain. The mineral

known as manganese spar is the carbonate of manganese. Braunite is another form of the oxide of manganese. To obtain pure metallic manganese, pyrolusite is mixed with lamp-black, and the mixture heated to whiteness in a blast furnace. The substance thus obtained contains a large percentage of combined carbon. A purer result has been obtained by heating the oxide with a small quantity of sugar charcoal in a crucible made of quicklime. Manganese occurs in small quantities as a constituent of many mineral waters. The black oxide of manganese is used in the manufacture of glass and of chlorine, also in dyeing, and as a source of oxygen gas, and as a medicine. Of the many combinations of manganese, nearly all are employed in medicine.

#### THE SOUTHOLD COLONY.

HILTON, Wis.

Give some account of the colony of Southold, on Long Island, whose founding has recently been celebrated.

R. G. MOAN.

*Answer.*—In 1640 a colony from Norfolk, England, under the leadership of the Rev. John Youngs, settled at Southold, Long Island. This company of settlers went first to New Haven, and probably reached there in 1639, and there received advice and aid concerning their place of settlement. The Southold colony was within the jurisdiction of the New Haven Colony for many years. It is thought that the New Haven people bought the land for the Southold settlers, as it is stated that these settlers, in May, 1649, petitioned the New Haven Colony that the purchase of their plantation should be made over to them. The church was opened at Southold Oct. 21, 1640, by the Rev. John Youngs; "gathered anew," the record says, implying that the people had been under the ministrations of this preacher before leaving England. The colony was patterned after that of New Haven in many particulars. It held church membership essential to citizen's rights, and it appointed a committee to regulate the admission of settlers, no new members being allowed to come in without permission. They thought it would be easier to keep out undesirable members than to reform them after they had come in. The colony had trouble with the Dutch over the question of boundaries, but this difficulty was settled by the treaty of Hartford in 1650, when the west line of Oyster Bay was made the dividing line. Little mention is made in the histories of this colony, but it is known that it was made up of diligent, God-fearing men and women, after the pattern of the other New England settlers. The settlement became a permanent and thriving one. The late celebration marked the 250th anniversary of the landing of the Rev.

John Youngs and his faithful company on the site of Southold Village.

**"GRESHAM LAW."**

SAVANNA, Ill.

Will Our Curiosity Shop tell us what is known as "Gresham law?"

READER.

*Answer.*—"Gresham law" is the proposition that, if there are two kinds of money in circulation, and there is a difference in their intrinsic value, the less valuable of the two drives out the more valuable. That was illustrated in this country during the period that paper money was not worth its face in coin. It was originally said with reference to debased or chipped coin. At one time it was not uncommon for European governments to resort to coin debasement, and in some instances to coin mutilation, as an expedient for raising revenue, and Gresham pointed out the perniciousness of that policy in its general effect upon the money of the country.

**CHICAGO'S ATTRACTIONS.**

SOMERSET, Ind.

Give a list of places that a visitor should see while in Chicago.

JAMES MONROE CRUMBINE.

*Answer.*—It is very difficult to give in a brief space anything like even a list of the leading points and places of interest in Chicago. The following is a partial list:

**Hotels.**

Auditorium,	Tremont,
Grand Pacific,	Sherman,
Palmer,	Richelieu.
Leland,	

**Railroad Depots.**

Wisconsin Central,	C., R. I. & P. and L. S.
Union, Madison and Canal,	& M. S.
Polk Street,	Chicago and Northwest-
Central,	ern.

**Amusements.**

Theaters, Panoramas.

**Streets.**

State,	Clark,
Wabash,	Michigan,
Madison,	Dearborn,
LaSalle,	Washington.

**Parks—Boulevards.**

Lincoln,	Lake Front,
Jackson,	Washington,
Garfield,	Humboldt,
Douglas,	Ashland boulevard,
Michigan boulevard,	Washington boulevard,
Grand boulevard,	Drexel boulevard,
Sheridan road,	Garfield Park boulevard.

**Buildings.**

City Hall,	Court House,
Board of Trade,	Chamber of Commerce,
Bookery,	Auditorium,
Tacoma,	Pullman,

**Charity and Benevolence.**

County Hospital,	Mercy Hospital,
U. S. Marine Hospital,	Michael Reese Hospital,
Presbyterian Hospital,	St. Luke's Hospital,
Foundling's Home,	Home for Friendless,

P. O. Asylum,	Alexian Brothers' Hos-
Washingtonian Home,	pital.

**Clubs.**

Calumet,	Chicago,
Union League,	Illinois,
Standard,	Iroquois,
University,	

**Colleges and Schools.**

Manual Training,	Athenaeum,
McCormick Seminary,	Congregational Semi-
St. Ignatius,	nary.
Rush Medical,	Chicago Medical,
Bennett Medical,	Hahnemann Medical,
Physicians and Surgeons,	Woman's Hospital.

**Other Places.**

Shot Tower,	Studebaker Building,
Douglas Monument,	Haymarket Monument,
South Water street,	Union Stock Yards,
Site of Fort Dearborn,	Tunnels,
City Water-works,	Art Institute,
County Jail,	Cable roads,
Historical Society,	THE INTER OCEAN,
Gunther's Museum,	Lumberman's Exchange.

**TOMMY ATKINS.**

WHENATON, Ill.

Why is the name Tommy Atkins applied to the British soldier, generically, as it were, as an Englishman is called John Bull?

READER.

*Answer.*—The story goes that the use of the name "Tommy Atkins," as a general soubriquet for the British soldier, came from a little pocket-book or ledger, at one time given out to all the soldiers in the Queen's army. In this book were to be entered the name, age, date of enlistment, length of service, wounds, medals, and similar facts concerning each individual. The war office sent with each little ledger a form for filling it in, and the fictitious name used in the form, after the pattern of the "John Doe" and "Richard Roe" of legal forms, was Thomas Atkins. The name "Tommy Atkins" was promptly given to the book, and in time the name was likewise given to the soldier himself.

**MAURICE THOMPSON.**

SOUTH CHICAGO, Ill.

Give a brief sketch of the life work of Maurice Thompson, the writer.

J. H. J.

*Answer.*—Maurice Thompson was born in Fairfield, Ind., Sept. 9, 1844. He was taken when a child to Kentucky and subsequently to Northern Georgia, where he received his education from private tutors. He served in the Confederate army through the war. After the war was over he returned to Indiana, and was employed as a surveyor and engineer for some years. Then he studied law, and began practice in Crawfordsville. He was State Geologist from 1885 to 1889. He has been for many years a frequent contributor to magazines and periodicals. In 1890 he became a staff writer for the New York Independent. His published volumes include "Hoosier Mosaics" (1875), "The Witchery of

Archery" (1878), "A Tallahassee Girl" (1882), "His Second Campaign" (1883), "Songs of Fair Weather" (1883), "At Love's Extremes" (1885), "By-ways and Bird Notes" (1885), "Sylvan Secret, in Bird-songs and Books" (1887), "The Story of Louisiana" (1888), and "A Fortnight of Folly" (1888).

#### HEALTHY CITIES.

CHICAGO.

Will Our Curiosity Shop please state which is the healthiest city in the United States? JUUB.

*Answer.*—We referred this query to Dr. John H. Rauch, Secretary of the Illinois State Board of Health. He replied that the question was a difficult one to answer owing to the incompleteness of statistics on the matter. "The death-rate of Chicago," he said, "is lower now than that of any other city in the world of 500,000 and upward, but this is not a fair comparison, as in order to judge accurately with regard to the relative healthfulness of cities, their death rates for at least five years should be compared. There are smaller cities both in the United States and Europe where the actual death-rate is lower." The Doctor went on to say that it would take at least a week to collect the data necessary to give a correct answer to the question, and referred us to an address made before the American Public Health Association in October, 1889, by Dr. H. A. Johnson, of Chicago. This offered a table of vital statistics for the year 1888 in the principal cities of the United States and Europe. According to this the five healthiest towns in the United States were in that year St. Paul, Minn.; Columbus, Ohio; Minneapolis, Minn.; Milwaukee, Wis., and Detroit, Mich. But it was apparent that the population of some of these cities had been overestimated, which made their death-rate, of course, proportionately smaller.

#### THE EMPEROR MAXIMIN.

FAIRHAVEN, Wash.

Tell something of the Emperor Maximinus, who was said to be nine feet high. C. N. S.

*Answer.*—Caius Julius Verus Maximinus, known in history as the Emperor Maximin, was born in Thrace in the latter part of the second century, the son of a Goth, and was brought up as a shepherd. He grew to gigantic stature, being nearly nine feet in height, and was of proportionate size and strength. When the Emperor Septimus Severus passed through Thrace on his return from the East, he was so amazed at the exhibitions of strength by this man of mighty frame that he made him, though a barbarian, a soldier in the imperial army. Maximin, by his great valor, rose from rank to rank, and when Alexander Severus was assassinated by the soldiers in Gaul, in 235 A. D., he

was proclaimed emperor. As a ruler, Maximin developed frightful qualities, showing himself rapacious and cruel to the last degree. He spared no one who he chose to fancy might conspire to overthrow him. Magnus, a worthy senator, was accused of heading a conspiracy, and, with 4,000 other persons, was put to death. Then Maximin issued an edict, confiscating the property of the provincial cities for the imperial treasury. This brought about a revolt in the army. It began in Africa in 238. Maximin, who was then in winter quarters on the Danube, hastened back to Italy, crossed the Alps, and besieged Aquileia, in Gaul, which had been taken possession of by the revolted troops. There he was murdered by his own soldiers.

#### THE WALKING-STICK.

CHICAGO.

Will Our Curiosity Shop tell something about that curious little insect known as the walking-stick? READER.

*Answer.*—The insect known by the name of walking-stick belongs to the family of Phasmids. The long, cylindrical brown body looks exactly like a small stick with the bark on, and the delicate legs closely resemble little twigs. These insects spend their lives on trees, and their peculiar appearance, so closely resembling that of a dry and leafless twig, protects them from observation and consequent harm. Some insects of this family are natives of warm climates, where they attain a large size. One species which is found in the East Indies is eight inches long. A species, about three inches in length, *Phasma femoratum*, is very common in the Southern States, and is also found sometimes in the States of the North.

#### VERA CRUZ, MEXICO.

TAMA, Iowa.

Please give a short description of the city of Vera Cruz, Mexico. O. H. M.

*Answer.*—The city of Vera Cruz is situated in a marshy plain on the shore of the Gulf of Mexico. It is built in the form of a semi-circle fronting the sea and is inclosed by a wall. The streets are regular and wide. The houses are well built of coral limestone, in the Spanish style, inclosing a square court with covered galleries. There are many fine buildings which are quite old, as the municipal palace, which was built in 1609, also the convent of San Francisco, more than two centuries old. The tower of this last-named building was fitted as a lighthouse in 1872, and part of the main structure has since 1870 been used as a public library. The city has gas and water-works and street railways. The harbor of Vera Cruz is merely an open roadstead, and is a very insecure anchorage in stormy weather. The

city is defended by two redoubts, and the fortified castle of San Juan d'Ulloa, which stands on an island of the same name about half a mile from the shore. Vera Cruz is the most important commercial port of the republic of Mexico. The first settlement called Vera Cruz, founded by Cortez in 1519, was a short distance north of the present site of the city, and this was abandoned in a few years for a position near the mouth of the Antigua. About 1590 the settlement was moved to the present site, and named Nueva Vera Cruz. It received the title and privileges of a city from the Spanish King in 1615. The city was given up by the Spaniards in 1825. It was bombarded and taken by the French in 1838, by the Americans under General Scott in 1847, and was taken by the allied British, French, and Spanish squadron in 1861.

#### LIFE-SAVING SERVICE IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

HANCOCK, Mich. -

Tell when and where the first life-saving stations were established in England and the United States. Have any other countries a similar service?

SUBSCRIBER.

*Answer.*—There are regular organizations or societies for the preservation of life from shipwrecked vessels in the United States, Great Britain, France, and Germany. Of these that of Great Britain was the first one established; all are comparatively recent institutions. The first life-boat was made in 1785, but little attention was then paid to it. After the wreck of the *Adventure* at Newcastle, in 1789, which was stranded only 300 yards from the shore, while her crew dropped, one by one, into the raging breakers in the presence of thousands of spectators, not one of whom dared to attempt their rescue, public feeling was aroused, and prizes were offered for the best models of a life-boat. The prize was awarded to a design made by Henry Greathead, a boat builder of South Shields, who, before the end of 1803, had made thirty-one boats of this kind—eighteen for England, five for Scotland, and eight for foreign lands. Many lives were saved by their means. But it was not until 1823 that public interest was aroused in the life-boat cause. In that year Sir William Hillary, who lived on the Isle of Man, and who had assisted directly in the saving of 305 lives, undertook to establish a society to carry on the work more generally and effectively. The Royal National Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck was founded March 4, 1824. Its name was changed later to the Royal National Life-boat Institution. The first life-boat station, however, for the use of Greathead's boat, had been established at South Shields in 1791 and between 1807 and 1814 some fifty or more coast stations

had been supplied with either the mortar or rocket apparatus for throwing ropes to vessels stranded upon rocks, where no boat could reach them. The first step in the United States toward an organized effort for assisting the shipwrecked was made by the Humane Society of Massachusetts, which erected huts of shelter and boat stations along the coast. Their first shelter-hut was built on Lovell's Island, near Boston, in 1789, and the first life-boat station was established at Cohasset in 1807. The society was supported in its humane efforts by voluntary contributions. In 1847, Congress for the first time extended aid to this work by appropriating \$5,000 "for furnishing the light-houses on the Atlantic coast with the means of rendering assistance to shipwrecked mariners." This sum lay unused in the Treasury for two years, and was then given to the Massachusetts Humane Society. In 1849 a life-saving association was organized in New York, which Congress aided with an appropriation, and the same year, the government had six life-saving stations erected on the New Jersey coast under the supervision of a committee of the revenue marine service. Several appropriations were subsequently made by Congress for carrying on this work, but the present life-saving system was not organized until 1871. The French Society for Saving Life from Shipwreck was founded in the year 1865, and the German Association for the same purpose was started in the same year. In addition to these societies, life-boat organizations, founded more or less on the plan of that in Great Britain, exist in Russia, Italy, Spain and China.

#### THE EARLIEST RECORDS OF HISTORY.

CROW CREEK, S. D.

Can it be shown by history or by any works of men that the earth was inhabited before the date given in the Bible as that of man's creation?

W. FULLER.

*Answer.*—There is good evidence to show that the Egyptians, the oldest race of men whose monuments still exist, had attained quite a degree of civilization long before the date once accepted as that of the creation—about 4000 B. C. See an article on "Early Egyptian History" in *Our Curiosity Shop* book for 1887. The pyramid of Sakkara, the oldest monument in Egypt, is supposed to have been built about 4700 B. C. From inscriptions on this monument and on others constructed during the centuries immediately following, it is plain that Egyptian society was fully organized, and its civilization well advanced at that date. But there are traces of the existence of men on the earth in periods which long ante-date the civilization of the Egyptians. In the remains

of the drift period, and in the caves of Europe, there are traces of primitive man to be found, whose origin must extend back not merely thousands but tens of thousands of years. These are in the form of implements and tools, engraved sometimes, or rudely sculptured into the likeness of some animal. Tracings giving an unmistakable likeness of the mammoth have been found, thus showing that man was contemporary with that animal, which became extinct during the time immediately following the glacial period. For this reason modern science accepts the days mentioned in the Mosaic account of the creation, as referring to indefinite periods of time, rather than to definite terms of twenty-four hours each. In this way, they think, the long gap of time between the calling of the earth into being and the beginning of continuous history was filled up.

#### THE HAMILTON-EAKER DUEL.

CAPRON, ILL.

Give an account of the duel fought by Alexander Hamilton's son on the same ground where Hamilton was shot.

S. L. HAUGER.

*Answer.*—Philip Hamilton, the eldest son of Alexander Hamilton, was killed in a duel two years and a half before his father lost his life in the same way. The two duels were also fought on the same ground. Young Hamilton was but 18 years of age at the time of his death. He had just graduated from Columbia College with high honors, and because of his brilliant talents and agreeable manners he was a great favorite with all who knew him. He inherited to a remarkable degree his father's genius, high ambition, and imperious temper. July 4, 1801, Philip heard an orator—G. J. Eaker—attack his father with ferocious invectives. A few months afterward Hamilton with a friend occupying a box at a theater noticed that Eaker was in the adjoining compartment. They therefore took the opportunity to scoff unmercifully at the other's "Independence Day pyrotechnics," and took care that their ridicule should reach his ears. At last Eaker could stand it no longer and calling them into the lobby by means of a messenger he applied insulting epithets to them, and seizing Hamilton by the coat collar, pushed him out into the street. On the following day Hamilton's friend challenged Eaker and a duel took place, but though four shots were exchanged neither party was injured. Young Hamilton was so dissatisfied at this termination of the affair that he reopened the difficulty by sending a challenge to Eaker. It was at once accepted and the combatants met Jan. 10, 1802, at Weehawken, N. J., and fought with pistols at twelve paces distance. Young Hamilton was severely wounded at the first fire and

died after suffering intense agony for some twenty hours.

#### SOLDIERS IN CONGRESS.

WEST UNION, IOWA.

What is the number of soldiers in the present Congress? The number of ex-Union and ex-Confederate soldiers is desired. E. R. MUSGROVE.

*Answer.*—The following table shows the number of members of the present Congress, Senate, and House who served in the Union and Confederate armies:

STATE.	NO. MEMBERS.		UNION.		CONFEDERATE.	
	Senate.	House.	Senate.	House.	Senate.	House.
Alabama.....	2	8	.....	.....	2	7
Arkansas.....	2	5	.....	.....	2	4
California.....	2	6	.....	1	.....	.....
Colorado.....	2	1	1	1	.....	.....
Connecticut.....	2	4	1	1	.....	.....
Delaware.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Florida.....	2	2	.....	.....	1	2
Georgia.....	2	10	.....	.....	1	6
Illinois.....	2	20	.....	5	.....	.....
Indiana.....	2	13	.....	3	.....	.....
Iowa.....	2	11	.....	8	.....	.....
Kansas.....	2	7	2	7	.....	.....
Kentucky.....	2	11	.....	.....	1	2
Louisiana.....	2	6	.....	.....	2	1
Maine.....	2	4	.....	2	.....	.....
Maryland.....	2	6	.....	.....	.....	.....
Massachusetts.....	2	12	.....	3	.....	.....
Michigan.....	2	11	.....	6	.....	.....
Minnesota.....	2	5	1	2	.....	.....
Mississippi.....	2	7	.....	.....	2	7
Missouri.....	2	14	.....	2	.....	1
Montana.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nebraska.....	2	3	1	2	.....	.....
Nevada.....	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....
New Hampshire.....	2	2	1	1	.....	.....
New Jersey.....	2	7	.....	.....	.....	.....
New York.....	2	34	.....	9	.....	.....
North Carolina.....	2	9	.....	.....	2	6
North Dakota.....	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Ohio.....	2	21	.....	14	.....	.....
Oregon.....	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Pennsylvania.....	2	28	1	9	.....	.....
Rhode Island.....	2	2	.....	1	.....	.....
South Carolina.....	2	7	.....	.....	2	5
South Dakota.....	2	2	1	2	.....	.....
Tennessee.....	2	10	.....	2	2	3
Texas.....	2	11	.....	.....	1	9
Vermont.....	2	2	.....	1	.....	.....
Virginia.....	2	10	.....	.....	2	5
Washington.....	2	1	.....	2	.....	.....
West Virginia.....	2	4	.....	1	2	1
Wisconsin.....	2	9	1	1	.....	.....

#### GOVERNOR TOD R. CALDWELL.

CHICAGO.

Give a brief history of the life of Governor T. Caldwell, of North Carolina. Give circumstances of his death.

READER.

*Answer.*—Tod R. Caldwell was born in Morgantown, N. C., about 1820. He graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1840, studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1842, and in the same year was elected to the State Legislature for a term of two years. In 1850 he was a State Senator. After the war he was a member of the reconstruction committee, and in 1868 was elected Lieutenant Governor on the ticket with W. W. Holden for Governor. When Holden was impeached and



removed from office in 1871 Caldwell became Governor. In August, 1872, he was elected Governor by a good majority, after a most hotly contested election. He died at Hillsboro, N. C., July 11, 1874, quite suddenly. The cause of his death was a disease of the kidneys.

#### RULERS OF REPUBLICS.

GRESHAM, Neb.  
Will Our Curiosity Shop please give a list of the rulers of the republics of the world?

READER.

Answer.—The following list gives the information desired:

NAME OF STATE.	FEDERATIVE REPUBLICS.	
	President.	Chosen.
Argentine Republic	Dr. C. Pellegrini	Aug. 1890 To fill out term ending 1892
Brazil	General de Fonseca	Nov. 1889 Six years.
Colombia	Jacinto Nuñez	Aug. 1884 Six years.
Costa Rica	Francisco Blanchard	Dec. 1884 Six years.
Chile	Porfirio Diaz	Dec. 1884 One year.
Guatemala	M. Ruchonnet	Dec. 1889 One year.
Haiti	Benjamin H. Harrison	Nov. 1888 Four years.
Honduras	Señor Palma	Mar. 1890 Two years.
Nicaragua		
Panama		
Paraguay		
San Salvador		
Uruguay		
NAME OF STATE.	INTEGRAL STATES.	
	President.	Chosen.
Bolivia	Don Aniceto Arce	Aug. 1888 Four years.
Chile	Don José Balmaceda	Sept. 1886 Five years.
Costa Rica	Don Antonio Flores	Jan. 1888 Four years.
France	M. Sadi-Carnot	Dec. 1887 Seven years.
Guatemala	General M. L. Barillas	Mar. 1886 Six years.
Haiti	General Hippolyte	Oct. 1889 Seven years.
Honduras	General Luis Bogram	Nov. 1888 Four years.
Nicaragua	Dr. Robert Sacasa	Sept. 1880 Four years.
Panama	C. M. Leizaola	Sept. 1886 Five years.
Paraguay	Morales Bermudez	Jan. 1880 Four years.
San Salvador	Ulisses Honoreux	Sept. 1886 Four years.
Uruguay	General Ezeta	Aug. 1890 To fill term ending 1891.
Hercules Obes		Mar. 1890 Four years.

#### THE HISTORY OF CHAIRS.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.

Where and how did chairs originate? What nation first used them?

H. W.

Answer.—Primitive man, we may suppose, when he desired to rest his tired limbs, squatted himself cross-legged upon the ground, as the Turk, Persian, and Hindus do to this day. The first movable seats were no doubt blocks of wood, from these were evolved in time the three-legged stool, and further evolution through the lapse of ages gave us the chair. Chairs, however, though a comparatively late invention with some races, are in themselves old. The ancient Egyptians had chairs, answering very closely to those of modern times, centuries before the Christian era, as we know from the

inscriptions on their monuments. These were rather low, having a seat from eight to fourteen inches high only. Some were very handsome, being made of ebony or colored wood, with figures of ivory inlaid. The legs were carved like the legs of animals, and the arms were the figures of crouching animals. The early Egyptians also had double chairs and lounges, and folding chairs like the modern camp-stool. The chairs of the rich had high backs, and were carved and adorned with many handsome designs, and did not materially differ from some of the arm-chairs made to-day. The Etruscans, who largely copied from Egyptian fashions, brought the luxury of chairs into Italy. The Romans had chairs, and very comfortable ones, as has been shown in the representations of them on ancient frescoes. Some have also been found in the excavations of Pompeii. Roman writers also speak of double chairs, which seem to have been like modern sofas. The ivory curule chair of Rome, or the chair of state, was introduced by one of the Tarquins, who probably took the idea of it from Etruria. The curule chair on wheels was the origin of the Roman chariot. The Italian chair of the middle ages had, for a back, a broad band of leather which fitted just under the shoulders. Chairs are a luxury that belong with civilization, and in every country, we may suppose, they came into use by degrees only. It is said that the movable chair was not known in England until the thirteenth century. Before that time the seats were fixed benches placed along against the walls, or a part of the floor raised. In the banqueting or eating halls, the tables were placed in front of the benches, and people sat upon one side of the table only. At the end of the table was a fixed chair over which was a canopy. This was the post of honor. The first chairs made in England were rude wooden constructions, and in the houses of the rich skins and large squares of tapestry were thrown over them. Later the seats of the chairs were covered with stamped leather, or velvet, and cushions were used. About the fifteenth century folding chairs began to be used, but we may suppose that they were only occasional luxuries for some time, for Sir J. Harrington, writing in 1597, asks why it would not as well become the state of a chamber to have "easie quilted and lyned forms and stools for the lords and ladies to sit on, as great plank forms two yeomen can scant remove out of their places, and waynscoot stools so hard that, since great breeches were laid aside, men can scarce endure to sit on." [The great breeches here referred to were the padded breeches and trunk hose of

Henry VIII.'s time.] Stuffed or upholstered chairs first began to be used by the rich in the time of the Stuarts. These were part of the effeminate luxuries of the time, against which the Puritans made protest. The latter clung to the chairs of wood with straight backs and high, narrow seats, and this was the first type of chair brought into New England. In 1581 the sedan chair, a chair to be carried about, was invented in Sedan. It was patented in England in 1634, and became very popular among the wealthy classes. Cane-seated chairs were first made in England in the latter part of the eighteenth century. They were invented in India. Some very curious old chairs can still be seen in England. There is one in which Bede, the historian, sat 1,100 years ago, which is simply a high open box with a seat fixed inside of it. A chair that was used by Edward III. is two carved beams of oak, crossed like an X, with a cushioned seat where the two beams are crossed. The people of Oriental countries do not use chairs, as we have said, but seat themselves on mats or carpets. Pillows or cushions are used for seats in the houses of the rich, and broad low divans or immovable sofas, these latter being made comfortable with rugs or cushions. The ancient Hebrews used seats of this kind. The Hebrews took from the Persians the custom of lying upon couches at their meals, and the same practice was followed by the Greeks and Romans.

#### BEN FRANKLIN'S DESCENDANTS.

NEW PARIS, Bedford County, Pa. Please be kind enough to state in the columns of Our Curiosity Shop the number of Dr. Benjamin Franklin's children, and give a brief biographical sketch of each. D. M. WONDERS.

*Answer.*—In the complete works of Benjamin Franklin, by John Bigelow, the following story is told of the son of Franklin: This (William Franklin), his only surviving son, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1731. His father had married Miss Read on Sept. 1, in the year 1730. William may therefore be said to have been born in wedlock, though he was not reputed to be the son of Mrs. Franklin. He did not find a home in his father's house until he was about a year old, from which time he was treated by the Doctor and Mrs. Franklin with all the tenderness and consideration to be expected from the most devoted parents. He was educated with care. He was at an early age appointed Clerk of the House of Assembly of Pennsylvania, and Postmaster of Philadelphia. In the French war he attained the rank of captain and served with credit at Ticonderoga. He accompanied his father to England in 1756, where he studied law, and in due time was called to the bar. Not long after

this the University of Oxford accentuated the compliment which it paid to the father in conferring upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws by conferring the degree of Master of Arts upon his son. On the 9th of September, 1763, young Franklin's commission as Governor of Nova Cesarea, or "New Jersey in America," was issued. He got on very well with his people until the news of the battle of Lexington reached them, which greatly inflamed them. Lord Sterling, one of the members of the Governor's Council, immediately accepted a commission under the Provincial Congress. The Governor suspended him. From this moment all harmony between the Governor and Council was at an end. The Assembly, which had been prorogued on the 24th of May preceding, was called upon by proclamation to convene again June 20. This was regarded as a contempt of the Continental Congress, and the Governor was thereupon declared by the Assembly an enemy of his country, deprived of his salary, arrested, and finally sent to Connecticut a prisoner of war. He was detained a prisoner there two years and five months. He was then released, and, repairing to New York, became President of the Board of Associated Royalists. After a sojourn of about four years in New York he sailed for England in August, 1782. The personal estate which he was obliged to sacrifice to his loyalty, amounting to £1,800, was restored to him by the English Government, and an annual allowance of £300 was made to him, in addition to a pension of £500, or half the salary and perquisites which had previously been granted to him. He died Nov. 17, 1813, at the age of 82 years. His marriage was with a West Indian lady, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Dorous. She is described as amiable and accomplished. She died July 28, 1778, in the 49th year of her age. Mr. Bigelow adds that between the doctor (Benjamin) and his son there was no intercourse from the beginning to the end of the war. A partial reconciliation, however, took place in 1784, and just before the former returned from Europe for the last time. Sarah Franklin, who is called Sally in Franklin's correspondence, was born Sept. 11, 1744, and was his (Benjamin's) only daughter. She was married to Richard Bache, and among her descendants have been a number of representative men and women.

#### THE GOVERNMENT SEED BUREAU.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. Tell something of the Government Seed Bureau. What amount is set aside or appropriated for this purpose? H. W.

*Answer.*—This bureau is a division of the Department of Agriculture. Its work is to

collect new and valuable seeds and plants test the same by cultivation, propagate such as may be worthy of propagation, and distribute them among the farmers through the country.

The purchase and distribution of seeds are confined to such as are rare, or those that can be made more profitable by changes from one part of the country to another. Also, the plants, trees, etc., which are purchased and distributed must be such as are adapted to general cultivation. As to the cost of this bureau, we have no means of determining how large a proportion of the appropriations for the Agricultural Department are assigned to the purpose of propagation and distributing seed. The total appropriation for the Agricultural Department in 1889 was \$1,715,826.

#### A LARGE OCEAN STEAMER.

##### FAIRHAVEN, Wash.

What are the dimensions, rate of speed, etc., of the largest ocean steamer now afloat, and to what nation does it belong? Compare its dimensions, etc., with the Great Eastern. C. N. S.

*Answer.*—We do not find any recent authoritative statement on this subject, but we think that the Normannia, a vessel belonging to the Hamburg-American line, which was first launched in the spring of 1890, is probably unsurpassed in size by any ocean steam vessel now in use, certainly not by any passenger steamer. The Great Eastern had a length of 692 feet, and a breadth of 83 feet. The Normannia is 500 feet long, with breadth of beam  $57\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The weight of the Great Eastern was 12,000 tons, that of the Normannia 8,500 tons. The former vessel could carry 5,000 passengers; the latter has comfortable accommodations for 1,300. In point of speed the later vessel far exceeds the earlier, for that was unwieldy and slow, while the Normannia is one of the fastest steamers on the Atlantic. She has a speed of twenty-one knots an hour, and is the only large vessel that has ever attained such speed.

#### GOVERNORS OF NEW JERSEY.

##### BUCHANAN, Mich.

Give a list of the Governors of New Jersey from the first to the present time. F. T.

*Answer.*—When the territory now included in the State was conveyed in 1665 by the Duke of York to Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret it received the name of New Jersey in compliment to Carteret, who had held the Isle of Jersey as royalist Governor under Charles II. But in 1682 the colony was divided into two provinces, East and West Jersey, and these were under different Governors for ten years. Then the provinces were under the same Governor for ten years more. From 1702 to 1708 the two provinces were united with New York

under the government of Lord Cornbury. After 1708 the Jerseys were allotted a separate Governor. The following table gives the executives of the colony from that time, and for the State down to the present date, with terms of office:

##### GOVERNORS—COLONIAL.

John Lord Lovelace.....	1708-09
Richard Ingolsby.....	1709-10
Gerardus Beekman.....	1710
General Andrew Hunter.....	1710-19
Peter Schuyler.....	1719-20
William Burnett.....	1720-23
John Montgomerie.....	1723-31
Lewis Morris.....	1731
Rip Van Dam.....	1731-32
William Crosby.....	1732-36
John Hamilton.....	1736-38
Lewis Morris.....	1738-46
John Hamilton.....	1746-47
Jonathan Belcher.....	1747-57
John Reading.....	1757-58
Francis Barnard.....	1758-60
Thomas Boone.....	1760-61
Thomas Hardy.....	1761-63
William Franklin.....	1763-76

##### GOVERNORS—STATE.

William Livingston.....	1776-90
William Patterson.....	1790-92
Richard Howell.....	1792-1801
Joseph Bloomfield.....	1801-02
John Lambert.....	1802-03
Joseph Bloomfield.....	1803-12
Aaron Ogden.....	1812-13
William L. Pennington.....	1813-15
Mahlon Dickerson.....	1815-17
Isaac H. Williamson.....	1817-29
Garret D. Wall.....	1829
Peter D. Vroom.....	1829-32
Samuel L. Southard.....	1832-33
Elias P. Seeley.....	1833
Peter D. Vroom.....	1833-36
Philemon Dickerson.....	1836-37
William Pennington.....	1837-43
Daniel Haines.....	1843-44
Charles C. Stratton.....	1844-48
Daniel Haines.....	1848-51
George F. Fort.....	1851-54
Rodman M. Price.....	1854-57
William A. Newell.....	1857-60
Charles S. Olden.....	1860-63
Joel Parker.....	1863-66
Marcus L. Ward.....	1866-69
Theodore F. Randolph.....	1869-72
Joel Parker.....	1872-76
Joseph D. Bedle.....	1876-78
George B. McClellan.....	1878-81
George C. Ludlow.....	1881-84
Leon Abbett.....	1884-87
Robert S. Green.....	1887-90

#### ARTESIAN WELLS.

##### FAIRHAVEN, Wash.

Tell what is known of the sources of the water which supplies artesian wells.

##### VON SCHICHTEL.

*Answer.*—Whether water can be obtained by artesian borings in any district, or not, depends upon the geological structure. All rocks contain more or less water. Sandy formations absorb water mechanically, and fine sand can take in about one-third of its bulk of water, and if a well be sunk into it, and regularly pumped from, nearly all of this moisture can be drawn out. Chalk, and similar rocks, which are made up of very fine particles, closely compacted together, contain a very large proportion of water, but from the capillary attraction of this rock, very little of this water will drain into a well sunk into it. But as there are often wide crevices in chalk

rocks, through which water flows in much greater quantity than the rock can retain in its pores, wells sunk into chalk formations often secure water. There is another formation, that of the clays, through which water does not percolate, and a well sunk in this rock can not secure water. In the geological strata of the earth, the veins which are impervious to water and those through which the water readily penetrates may occur in alternating layers, and when in this manner a pervious bed of earth lies between two impervious ones, it is plain that we have a formation altogether favorable to the objects of the artesian well. For, if a perforation be made through the retentive rock into the water-logged strata below, the moisture there contained will rise through the bore to a height depending upon the pressure of water which has accumulated in the confined space between the two impervious veins. When, as so often happens, especially where the surface of the country is uneven, the vein of water-yielding sand may run beneath the surface of the earth, to a level far above the point where the boring has been made, the water will rise rapidly in the well, to the surface of the earth, and often higher, and will then flow continuously by hydrostatic pressure. As veins of sand or pervious rock run through the earth everywhere, there seem to be few places where the process of boring can not secure water at less or greater depth. Many artesian wells have been made in the deserts; in the Sahara a number of wells made in this way are transforming a perfectly arid land into a fertile, beautiful country. And as surface waters are continually percolating into the strata from which the artesian well draws, such wells seldom fail even after many years of usage. There are such wells in the old world that have been in use for centuries.

#### CAUSATION.

WOODBINE, Iowa.

Give some facts concerning the laws of causation. Can these laws be said to have the same validity as mathematical axioms? STUDENT.

*Answer.*—The laws of causation, or of the relation between cause and effect, form one of the most important questions concerned in philosophical discussion. It is admitted with the force of an axiom or undisputed truth, that every effect must have a cause. This is known as the law of universal causation. This also may be expressed by saying that every event can be explained through a knowledge of antecedent conditions. This gives us another universally accepted law, which is that the cause must precede the effect. There is also a third law, which is borne out by scientific investigation

of nature, that like causes will always produce—given similar conditions—like effects. The parent of metaphysics, Aristotle, found “four causes” for everything, which he defined thus: The material cause, out of which a thing is framed; the formal cause, or the essence or idea of the thing; the efficient or active cause, by means of which it took its present form; and the final cause or purpose which it subserves. But in modern philosophy the meaning of the word is restricted to what Aristotle called the efficient cause, the other “causes” being rather understood as principles which enter into the existence of everything. Therefore modern philosophy understands a cause to mean the explanation of any change, or the condition or conditions which, intervening among other more permanent conditions, produce any effect. John Stuart Mill in his most able work on logic has an admirable chapter on causation. He says: “The law of causation, the recognition of which is the main pillar of inductive science, is but the familiar truth, that invariability of succession is found by observation to obtain between every fact in nature and some other fact which has preceded it. \* \* \* To certain facts certain facts always do, and, as we believe, will continue to, succeed. The invariable antecedent is termed the cause, the invariable consequent, the effect. And the universality of the law of causation consists in this, that every consequent is connected in this manner with some particular antecedent, or set of antecedents. Let the fact be what it may, if it has begun to exist it was preceded by some fact or facts, with which it is invariably connected. For every event there exists some combination of objects or events, some given concurrence of circumstances, positive and negative; the occurrence is always followed by that phenomenon. We may not have found out what this concurrence of circumstances may be, but we never doubt that there is such a one, and that it never occurs without having the phenomenon in question as its effect or consequence. On the universality of this truth depends the possibility of reducing the inductive process to rules.”

#### SOME SACRED TREES.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.

Why is it that the palm (1), the oak (2), and the ash (3) have been regarded since time immemorial as sacred trees? H. W.

*Answer.*—1. The palm-tree has from the earliest times been an emblem of victory. Among the Greeks, and also with the Romans, palm-branches were used to decorate the buildings and streets of the city in honor of the return of the victorious armies. This

custom had been taken from Eastern nations, and the Hebrews were accustomed to carry palm-branches—which are properly leaves—on all occasions of rejoicing. This custom having been observed on the entry of Christ into Jerusalem, the tree has come to bear a special symbolism among Christians. The primitive church used it to express the triumph of the Christian over death through the resurrection. A palm-branch was carved upon the tombs of those who perished for the faith, and it became the custom to paint martyrs with a palm-branch in their hands. Throughout the world the Roman Catholic Church observes Palm Sunday by decorating the churches with leaves, and wherever the leaves of the palm can be procured they are used. 2. The oak is a sacred tree through heathen legends. As the finest tree of the forest, the Greeks and Romans both hold it sacred to their chief deity, Zeus, or Jupiter, and the sacrifices to this god were offered under the shade of oak trees. But the tree was especially sacred among northern nations, who worshiped it as a holy thing. Writers on mythology think that this custom dates back to the time when the acorn was the chief means of subsistence for primitive man. The Greek poets called the oak the mother and nurse of man. It is most probable, however, that the reverential gratitude of these remote ancestors of ours toward the oak-tree, was due to pleasing recollections of the comfort which its shade afforded to their scantily clothed bodies on a hot summer day. The Druids of early Britain regarded the oak as the most sacred object in nature, and they worshipped their most sacred being, Hæsus, or the Mighty One, as embodied in an oak. The mistletoe, which grows on an oak, they also looked upon as sacred. Other races of Europe held the same belief. The Hessians called the oak the symbol and abode of the gods. The inhabitants of the city of Kiev, in Russia, went every year in June to the Black Sea to offer sacrifice under a sacred oak. The ancient Persians worshipped their gods under the oak and linden trees. It is said that one of the first missionaries that preached the gospel to the Germans cut down an oak tree, and the people who held that tree sacred to Thor were horror-struck and expected to see him immediately slain by a thunderbolt of the gods. 3. The ash derives its sacred character solely from the mythology of the northern nations. The Scandinavian legend was that the first man and woman made were from the ash and elm. The courts of the gods were also held under a great ash tree. This sacred character of the ash has led to

the idea that it is a defense against witches, fairies, poisonous animals, and some diseases. It was held dangerous to break a bough from an ash tree, and it was believed that a touch from an ash stick would kill a snake. In Scotland ash sap was once given to new-born infants as their first food, under the belief that it would protect them from all ills.

#### EXPANSION OF WATER.

WESTERVILLE, Iowa.

Give the scientific reason why water expands as it freezes.

J. M. P.

Answer—This curious natural phenomenon has never been accounted for by any theory of heat that has been formed. The expansion of all liquids by heat is great, and none undergoes such remarkable changes in bulk by the addition or withdrawal of heat as water. A cubic inch of water in passing into the solid state forms more than a cubic inch of ice, and a cubic inch of water heated to 212 degrees is converted into 2,000 cubic inches of steam. The law of the expansion of liquids by heat is universal. A barrel quite filled with any liquid in winter, and not allowed to freeze, in summer will force out its plug or burst. If a tea-kettle is quite full when it is placed on the fire, it overflows when heated to the boiling point, and if any vessel be filled to the brim with boiling hot fluid it will not be quite full when its contents have cooled. In the case of water, however, there is a singular exception to this general law of expansion by heat and contraction by cold which applies in the case of other liquids. Water contracts only down to a temperature of 39 degrees or, more accurately, only down to 39¼, while from that point to 32 degrees, which is its freezing point, it again expands. No other liquid is known to possess this remarkable property, except that certain metals and alloys expand slightly on passing from the liquid to the solid state. But if heat is applied to water at 39 degrees, it will expand by the universal law, and then if we lower its temperature to 32 degrees, it will expand in the meantime by its special law. It will have expanded by the time that it reaches 32 degrees, just as much as it would expand in heating from 39 degrees to 47 degrees. This can be shown by the following experiment: Place two glass tubes containing water and mercury into a basin filled with crushed ice. The mercury will sink to 32 degrees and remain there. The water will sink till it reaches 39¼ degrees, but, though still undergoing the cooling process, it will from that point begin to rise. When just about to freeze, that is, at a temperature of 32 degrees, it will have expanded so as to mark 47 degrees. As we have said, scientists have never

been able to explain this curious action of water or tell why it is expanded by cold as well as by heat. The temperatures given apply to fresh water. Water which has salt or other soluble matter in it has to reach a much lower temperature before it freezes, 25 degrees or 27 degrees, and down to that point it continues to decrease in bulk, expanding only after it freezes.

#### THE STORY OF BARBARA FREITCHIE.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.

There appears to be some dispute among writers regarding the story of "Barbara Freitchie." Will you please give the correct statement of the occurrence? H. WARREN.

*Answer.*—There was a Barbara Freitchie who lived in Frederick, Md., at the time of the invasion of that city by the Confederate army in 1862. But the incident given in Whittier's poem concerning her is not a true one, for General Jackson, in marching through Frederick, did not pass near her house. Colonel Henry K. Douglas, of Jackson's staff, as quoted in the work "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War," published by the Century Company, p. 622, says: "Just a few words in regard to Mr. Whittier's poem, 'Barbara Freitchie.' An old woman by that now immortal name did live in Frederick in those days, but she never saw General Jackson, and General Jackson never saw Barbara Freitchie. I was with him every minute of the time he was in that city; he was there only twice, and nothing like the scene so graphically described by the poet ever happened." The writer then goes on to tell how Union flags were waved before him by two pretty girls and their mother at Middleton. This latter incident which Colonel Douglas details is very like one given by a Mr. Joseph Walker in the Baltimore *Herald* of Sept. 29, 1894. He says that on the day that General Jackson passed through Frederick a Mrs. Mary A. Quantrell, with her little daughter, went to the gate before her house, and the two waved small Union flags in the face of the Confederate soldiers. Many of the men shouted, "Throw down that flag," and an officer drew his sword and cut the staff of the one which the child held, but the mother was not molested. Some of the officers even raised their hats to her saying, "To you, madam, not your flag." Mrs. Quantrell was a young woman, red-cheeked, black-haired and handsome. Whether this story is wholly authentic or whether it is merely a version of the Middleton incident, we cannot say. Mr. Walker asserts that it was known to all the town of Frederick. Barbara Freitchie, who was at that time 96 years of age, and who lived on Patrick street, Frederick, did not see the Con-

federate soldiers. But she was a very loyal old lady, and when Burnside's troops came to town six days later, she went on her porch and waved a flag to welcome the Union soldiers who cheered her lustily as they went by. The above facts have all been attested by actors in the circumstances and are probably correct. Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth, who was living in Washington at the time of the invasion, was responsible for the version of the story which was transmitted to Mr. Whittier and which was made the foundation of his poem. It is probable that her informant had heard both flag-waving incidents and had got them mixed, imputing to the elder lady the daring action of the younger.

#### RIGHTS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION.

ROBALIA, Wash.

Is there anything in the United States Constitution which defines or limits the qualifications of voters in this country? Does the Fourteenth Amendment accomplish this end? In fact, is there anything in the Constitution to prohibit a 10-year-old girl from voting in the States?

L. T. B.

*Answer.*—The framers of the Federal Constitution did not take up the question of the qualifications of voters in the United States except by the provision that those who voted for members of the House of Representatives in each State, "shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State Legislature." There was no oversight in this matter; intentionally, each State was left to prescribe for itself who should have the privilege of voting. No State at that time granted this privilege to all its citizens. The principle of universal manhood suffrage which has since been generally adopted is not distinctively "American" in its origin. It was taken from the French, who were the first to assert voting to be a natural right. Our forefathers rather regarded it as a privilege, to be earned by some manifestation of the qualities of good citizenship. The purpose of the fourteenth amendment was to restrict the political power of the whites of the South, by taking from them the privilege of counting three-fifths of the negro inhabitants of those States, in making their apportionment for representation. The fourteenth amendment gave the negro citizenship, but did not confer upon him the right to vote. It, however, made it for the interest of the Southern States to voluntarily extend the suffrage to the negro, to increase their representation thereby. But as the Southern States refused to see their interests in this light, the fifteenth amendment was adopted in 1870. This is the only part of the Constitution which "defines or limits" the qualification of voters. The existing conditions of the suffrage in the United States may

be summed up as follows: The Federal Constitution gives no one the right to vote. That right is possessed by citizens of the United States only as it has been given to them by the constitutions and laws of the States wherein they reside. Nor does the fifteenth amendment give the right to vote to the negroes; it simply provides that their race, their color, or their previous condition as slaves shall not deprive them of it when they would otherwise possess it under State law. But the States are fully empowered to restrict the suffrage within their borders for other reasons than those which the thirteenth amendment specifies—such as nativity, sex, illiteracy, and non-payment of taxes—that is, this power which they have exercised has never been set aside by Congressional enactment. The power of Congress to legislate at all on the subject of suffrage in the States can only be exercised in contingencies arising under this amendment. To extend it to other particulars involving the restriction or extension of the franchise right, another amendment of the Constitution is necessary.

#### THE BENNETT LAW.

NORTH JUDSON, Ind.  
What are the main features of the "Bennett Law?" C. C. K.

*Answer.*—Section 1 of this law provides that every child between the ages of 7 and 14 years, shall be compelled to attend some public or private school in the district where-in he resides, for not less than twelve weeks, and that the compulsory period shall be fixed by the board of directors, and shall not exceed twenty-four weeks in the year. Sections 2, 3, and 4 provide for the penalty to be exacted from parents and guardians who neglect to compel this attendance of the children under their care. That they shall be fined from \$3 to \$20 for every neglect of such duty—a failure for each week or part of a week to constitute a distinct offense—and for any false statement concerning a child's age, made with the intent to evade the law, the board of directors to prosecute these cases for fines. But it is provided that the directors may excuse children from attendance at school for valid reasons. Section 5 declares that "No school shall be regarded as a school under this act unless there shall be taught therein, as part of the elementary education of children, reading, writing, arithmetic, and United States history in the English language." Sections 6 and 7 provide for the manner of prosecutions under the law, and that not only school directors but justices of the peace and police magistrates may have jurisdiction in the cases. Section 8 makes provision for the punishment of

truancy, that truant children may be committed to the control of the authorities as though they were dependent, and that any child found loitering on the streets during school hours may be arrested by local officers and taken to the public school nearest to its home, or to any school which the child's parents may suggest. Sections 9-13 provide against the employment of child labor in factories. It is declared that no child under 13 years of age shall be employed at regular labor of any kind without a permit from the county judge, and penalties are provided against any person or company that employs a child without such permit, and finally that any attempt to evade the provisions of the law will be punished by fines for each such offense.

#### THE MONTHS.

WILMINGTON, Ill.  
When and by whom was the year first divided into months? READER.

*Answer.*—The division of time into months is so old that its origin can not possibly be dated. Probably, after the first great natural division of time noticed by primitive man—that of day and night—the next that he perceived was that indicated by a lunar revolution, or the period from new moon to new moon again. This is the time of one revolution of the moon around the earth, and is equal to 29 days 12 hours 44 minutes 8 seconds. The early Oriental nations marked their time by lunations, but the true nature of the month, as related to the year, was not known until some knowledge of astronomy had been gained. The savage races found by the white men in America all measured their time by moons, and so do the African tribes of to-day. Few, if any, races have ever been met with so ignorant and unobservant as not to be familiar with this division of time. The names of our months we have taken from the Romans, also their arrangement, for a month with us does not agree with a lunation. Julius Caesar, when he reformed the calendar, arranged the months and their days so that every odd month, first, third, etc., should have thirty-one days, and every even month thirty days, except February, which had thirty only on bissextile years. He retained the names of the months as they had been originally given them by Numa Pompilius—who was the first to arrange the Roman calendar—except that he named the seventh month July, after himself. This arrangement of months and days was changed by Augustus Caesar, who, desiring to give his own name to the eighth month, and being unwilling that his month should have any less number of days

than that of the great Julius, took a day from February to give August thirty-one days, and then transposed the number of days in the months following, making November and September the shorter months instead of the others. As thus arranged, the months still remain. The very convenient verse,

"Thirty days hath September,  
April, June, and November;  
All the rest have thirty-one  
But February, which has twenty-eight alone,"  
might have been written by Augustus Caesar himself, but it probably was not. It was, however, no doubt in common use long before the first written record of it, in 1606.

#### PLANCHETTE.

SUN CITY, Kan.

Explain the mystery if there is any, of the planchette, which was so popular a few years since.

M. STEWART.

*Answer.*—The receipt of several letters of inquiry concerning planchette leads us to wonder whether that short-lived humbug of past years is about to have a new lease of existence conferred upon it. Planchette was a three-legged impostor. It was a small triangular-shaped wooden tablet, having two castors for supports at the base of the triangle and a sharpened pencil attached at its apex. It was very light, and the slightest touch would cause it to run about on the paper, making marks with the pencil point, of course, as it moved. Imaginative persons were wont to fancy that these marks had some supernatural or oracular import. It requires no imagination to perceive how altogether transparent the fraud was, how credulous persons could be made to see significance in a mere shapeless scrawl, and how easily the movement of the board might be guided by a hand placed thereon, so that the pencil would make marks resembling letters. The "Confessions of a Reformed Planchettist," published in Harper's *Magazine* at the time the craze was at its height, about 1868, gave a very clear insight into the workings of this small toy. The writer bought a planchette board, curious to test its powers. At first he could do nothing with it. He tried alone and with a lady friend in vain. It either would not move, or if it moved it simply ran around the table in a wild way. But one evening, watching an acquaintance under whose fingers the toy always responded to questions propounded to it, he thought that he saw the solution of the riddle. He tested his suspicion by taking his place with the successful performer at the table, placing his hands with those of the other on the planchette and pressing heavily upon it, while not appearing to do so. He was determined, he said, if physical force was

used, to compel the exercise of enough of it to be visible. Sure enough, he saw the working of the digital muscles of his companion's hand plainly. Knowing the secret, he then became a most successful planchettist. Having ourselves frequently taken part in the game, we do not hesitate to aver that there was nothing in it but a hoax. With many persons, no doubt, the hoax was not a conscious one. Having a word fixed in their mind, they guided the pencil without knowing it into the form of the word, or expecting to see written a word or name, their imagination perceived its outline in marks that were to others mere shapeless scribbling. The success of planchette was only another proof of the truth of P. T. Barnum's assertion that human beings like to be humbugged.

#### PHI BETA KAPPA SOCIETY.

PROPHETSTOWN, Ill.

Will the Curiosity Shop give the history of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and significance of its name?

A. T. B.

*Answer.*—The Phi Beta Kappa Society, the first of the college fraternities of America, was founded at Williamsburg, Va., Dec. 7, 1776, in the very room in which Patrick Henry had made his famous speech in behalf of the independence of the colonies. Five young men, students of William and Mary College, which was then the most wealthy and flourishing institution of learning in this country, formed the plan of the society. It was to be a secret organization, and was to be known by the name of three Greek letters that formed the initials of its motto—Phi Beta Kappa. Its object was the promotion of refined good-fellowship among the young men, with (to quote from its ritual) "friendship as its basis and benevolence and literature as its pillars." The minutes of the early meetings of the fraternity are still extant, and these show the organization to have been so entirely separate from politics or National concerns that the only reference in their record to the Revolution is a single mention of the "confusion of the times" in the minutes of the last meeting held in 1781, when Cornwallis was devastating Virginia. The society had chartered several new chapters or subordinate societies—Beta, Gamma, Delta, Epsilon, Zeta (Harvard), Eta (Yale), and Theta—before Alpha, the mother chapter, passed out of existence. Seventy years later one of its first members, William Short, then 90 years old, traveled from Philadelphia to Williamsburg and revived the old chapter, but its second term of existence was but short. The later chapters of the Phi Beta Kappa Society are all descended from two of those founded by the first chapter, the story of the others hav-



ing passed into oblivion. The Phi Beta Kappa is now regarded as an honorary rather than an active institution, though the reunions of its chapters are still looked upon among college men as noteworthy events.

#### THE LARGEST SAILING SHIP IN THE WORLD. RADNOB, Ohio.

Can Our Curiosity Shop give the dimensions of the largest sailing vessel now afloat? By what country is it owned? READER.

*Answer.*—A vessel of the French merchant marine, recently completed at the ship-yards of Partick, Eng., is believed to be the largest sailing ship now in existence. It is called the *France*. Its dimensions are 360 feet long by 48 feet 9 inches broad and 30 feet deep; its gross tonnage is given as about 3,750 tons, and its carrying capacity 6,150 tons. Its sails are said to have an area of 46,000 square feet. The vessel is rigged as a five-masted barque, its rigging being very complete in order to cope with the great size of its sails and spars. The vessel is to be principally engaged in the trade between France and South America.

#### AMOS BRONSON ALCOTT.

##### PROPHETSTOWN, Ill.

Will the Curiosity Shop give a sketch of Amos B. Alcott, with an account of his school? F. ROSS.

*Answer.*—Amos Bronson Alcott was born in Wolcott, Conn., Nov. 29, 1799. At the age of fifteen he entered a clock factory, but not liking his employment there he gave it up and set out to sell books through the country. In 1818 he went to Virginia, hoping to get employment there as a teacher, but failing in this, he traveled through the State as a peddler of small wares. He spent several years in this work at the South, but in 1823 abandoned it, and returned to the North. He established an infant school in Boston, in which he carried on very much the same method of conversational teaching as that which had been inaugurated by Pestalozzi in Switzerland some fifty years earlier. His new methods attracted much attention, but as they were greatly in advance of the time, they aroused strong opposition and the school was given up. Mr. Alcott then removed to Concord, Mass., where he "devoted himself to the study of natural theology and of reform in civil and social institutions, education and diet." He also frequently gave lectures. In 1830 he married Miss Abby May and removed to Germantown, Pa., but in 1834 returned to Boston and reopened his school, which he continued for several years. A very full account of this institution is given in "A Record of Mr. Alcott's School," written by Miss Elizabeth Peabody, who had been one of his pupils. In 1843 Mr. Alcott visited England. After his return he attempted to form a com-

munity which he called "Fruitlands" at Harvard, Mass., but this was soon given up. After living for a short time in Boston he returned to Concord, where he passed the rest of his life. He frequently traveled about giving conversations at various towns and villages on divinity, ethics, dietetics and other subjects. After the Concord School of Philosophy was opened in 1878 he took an active part in its teachings. The last few years of his life were spent with his daughter, Louisa May Alcott, at Boston, Mass., where he died March 4, 1888. Two days later Miss Alcott died also.

#### RULERS OF MONARCHIES.

##### CARLETON, Ill.

Give the names of the different kinds of monarchies in the world and their rulers.

##### C. L. SNARE.

*Answer.*—Monarchies may be divided, first, into federations and unified or integral states, and, secondly, the latter class may be divided into constitutional monarchies and despotisms. A federation is a government wherein the central authority is supreme in all international affairs, but limited in internal administration, as our own government is. Unified states are those wherein the central government is responsible for the administration of public affairs in all parts of the country. It is true that in some constitutional governments, as in Great Britain, local affairs are left largely to local authorities, but this does not lessen the responsibility of the central government, which has the power at any time to overrule any local body in behalf of what it may regard as the public good. A constitutional monarchy is one wherein the power of the ruler is restrained within certain defined limits; in a despotism the power of the ruler is absolute. Following we give a list of the monarchies of the world with their rulers, divided according to the above definition of classes:

#### FEDERATIVE MONARCHIES.

Germany—Empire, made up of 4 Kingdoms, 6 Grand Duchies, 5 Duchies, 7 Principalities, 3 Free Towns, and 1 Imperial Duchy. Emperor, William II., of the House of Hohenzollern, proclaimed Emperor June 15, 1888.

Austria-Hungary—Union under one crown and a Bipartite Federal Congress, of the Empire of Austria and the Kingdom of Hungary. Emperor and King, Franz Joseph I., of the House of Habsburg Lorraine; proclaimed Emperor Dec. 12, 1848; crowned King of Hungary, June 8, 1867.

Sweden and Norway—Bipartite State, formed by the Union under one crown of two otherwise independent Kingdoms. King, Oscar I.,

of the House of Ponte Corvo, succeeded to the throne Sept. 18, 1872.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHIES.

Great Britain—Queen, Victoria I., of the house of Hanover, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and Empress of India, ascended the throne June 20, 1837.

Belgium—King, Leopold II., of the house of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, succeeded to throne Dec. 10, 1835.

Portugal—King, Carlos I., of the house of Braganza-Coburg, succeeded to the throne, Oct. 19, 1889.

Spain—Queen Regent, Maria Christina, proclaimed Nov. 26, 1885, to rule during the minority of the king, her son, Alfonso XIII., born May 17, 1886. The reigning family of Spain is of the Spanish branch of the Bourbons.

Holland, or the Netherlands—Queen Regent, Emma, appointed to regency Nov. 13, 1890, during the illness of the late King, Willem III., of the house of Orange. On the king's death, Nov. 23, 1890, the Princess Wilhelmina, ten years of age, was proclaimed Queen, her mother to act as regent until Aug. 31, 1898, when the young Queen will attain her majority.

Denmark—King, Christian IX., of the house of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glücksburg, came to the throne Nov. 15, 1863, in accordance with the treaty of London.

Italy—King, Umberto I., of the house of Savoy Carignano, came to the throne Jan. 9, 1878.

Greece—King, Georgios I., son of the King of Denmark, came to the throne, by election, Nov. 2, 1863.

Roumania—King, Karl I., of the house of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen; elected Prince, 1866; crowned King March 27, 1881.

Servia—King, Alexander I., of the family of Obrenovitch; proclaimed on the abdication of his father, King Milan, March 6, 1889, to remain under a regency until he reaches the age of 18 years, in 1894.

Japan—Mikado, Mutsu Hito, succeeded to absolute rule Feb. 13, 1867. Promulgated a constitution providing for a parliament of two houses, for elections by the people, and other important limitations of the imperial power, Feb. 11, 1889.

#### DESPOTISMS.

Russia—Emperor, Alexander III., of the house of Romanoff-Holstein. Succeeded to the throne on the death of his father (killed by the Nihilists) March 13, 1881.

Montenegro—Hospodar (or Prince) Nicholas I., of the dynasty of Petrovitch, proclaimed ruler Aug. 14, 1860.

Turkey, or Ottoman Empire—Sultan, Abdul-

Hamid II., of house of Othman, succeeded to the throne Aug. 31, 1876.

Morocco—Sultan, Muley-Hassan, of the dynasty of Alides, succeeded to the throne Sept. 17, 1873.

Persia—Shah, Nasr-ed-Din, of the dynasty of the Kajars, succeeded to the throne Sept. 10, 1848.

China—Emperor, Tsaitien, of the Manchu dynasty, proclaimed King Jan. 23, 1875, when but 4 years old. Assumed the government in February, 1889.

Siam—King, Chulalong Korn I., succeeded to the throne Oct. 1, 1868.

Afghanistan—Ameer, Abdurrahman Khan, succeeded to the throne July, 1880.

#### TRIBUTARY STATES.

There are a number of tributary states, under the protection, more or less asserted, of large states, which, though not wholly self-governing, have their internal government so far centered in a ruler that they may be fairly classed with monarchies. In this list we may place Bulgaria and Egypt, under Turkey; Bokhara and Khiva, under Russia; Bhutan and Nepal, in the Himalayas, Oman, in South-eastern Arabia, and the island of Zanzibar, under Great Britain; Tunis and the island of Madagascar, under France; Abyssinia, under Italy; Baluchistan and Sikkim, under British India, and Thibet, under China. The rulers of these subordinate kingdoms are as follows:

Bulgaria—Prince Ferdinand, of the house of Saxony, succeeded to the government by choice of the Bulgarian National Assembly Aug. 14, 1887.

Egypt—Khedive, Mohamed Tewfik, of the dynasty of Mehemet Ali, succeeded to the throne June 26, 1879.

Bokhara—Ameer, Sayid Abdul Ahad, succeeded in 1885.

Khiva—Khan, Sayid Mahomed Rahim, succeeded to throne in 1865.

Bhutan—Government is divided between two rulers—Deb Rajah, the civil head, and Dharma Rajah, the spiritual head of the government.

Nepaul—Maharajah, Shumshir Jung, succeeded in 1884.

Oman—Sultan, Seyid Feysal bin Turki, succeeded to power in June, 1838.

Zanzibar—Sultan, Seyyid Ali, succeeded to throne February, 1890.

Tunis—Bey, Sidi Ali, succeeded Oct. 23, 1882.

Madagascar—Queen, Ranavalona III., came to the throne July 13, 1883.

Abyssinia—Menelek II. came into power in March, 1889.

Baluchistan—Khan, Mir Khudadad, succeeded to power in June, 1857.

Sikkim—A ruler who is only mentioned in the dispatches as the Maharajah.

Thibet—Little is known of this country beyond the fact that it has been tributary to China since 1720. The ruler in all civil and religious matters is known as the Dalai Lama. He does not rule in person, but through a regent called the Desi.

#### SAVAGE STATES.

There are also some small independent despotisms in Africa, of which very little is known. The "Statesman's Year Book" for 1890 mentions four in the Central Soudan—Bornu, Wadai, Kanem, and Baghirmi—all of them under the rule of native sultans; the Egyptian Soudan, under the control of the Mahdi; four states in the region of the great lakes—Karagwe, Ruanda, Uganda, and Unyoro; also Dahomey, in Upper Guinea, and Ulunda, in the Congo basin, all of which have native rulers.

#### THE FRENCH IN AFRICA.

Give some account of the French colonies in Africa.

CHICAGO.  
M. W.

*Answer.*—The French possessions in Africa are of considerable extent and importance. They include Algeria, which has an area of 818,384 square kilometers—a square kilometer is a little less than two-fifths of a square mile—and a population of 3,910,399; Tunis, with an (approximate) area of some 115,000 square kilometers, and an estimated population of 2,100,000. To these must be added Senegal and its dependencies, having 358,500 square kilometers, and about 1,850,000 inhabitants; 24,000 square kilometers on the Gold Coast; the French territory of the Congo and Gaboon, together estimated at 670,000 square kilometers, with a population unknown; the island of Reunion, containing 175,371 inhabitants in 1886; Sainte Marie de Madagascar, Mayotte, Nossi-Be, Obock, and the protectorate of the Comores, and the great island of Madagascar, 591,964 square kilometers in area, with a population of 3,500,000, which stands virtually under the protectorate of France. The French conquered Algeria in 1830 and established a military government, which was replaced with a civil Governor and a Colonial Council in 1871. The revenue of Algeria, though considerable, has never equaled the cost of governing the country. This seems to be because the French method has been to establish a regime of complicated detail, with large numbers of petty officers, exercising a close surveillance over the people. More than half of the French population of Algeria is made up of soldiers and police

officials. A French writer has said that Algeria under French rule might be represented by a farmer plowing his field with a soldier marching on each side of him. Still the general state of the country has been improved under French rule. Good roads have been built through the country, including some 1,550 miles of railway, and telegraphs and other improvements of civilization have been introduced. The turbulent Arabs have become more peaceful, and both the domestic and foreign trade of the country have been largely increased. Tunis was taken under French control less than ten years ago. In March, 1880, French soldiers got into a fight with Tunisians on the Algerian border. Upon that followed a war, which was prolonged by a rebellion among the Algerians, while the bulk of the French army had invaded Tunis. Finally the Tunisians were overcome, and May 12, 1881, a treaty was made which provided for a French protectorate over the country. Under this treaty a French minister resident was established in Tunis, to advise the bey, or ruler of the province, with regard to his public acts. This official is under the direction of the French ministry of foreign affairs, which has a special bureau devoted to Tunisian matters. The French government on taking control of the province assumed its public debt and took possession of the revenues. The net result of financial management there has been less costly, perhaps, than in Algeria, but, as in the other case, the receipts of the province have never equaled the cost of its administration. But much has been done for the improvement of the country, for, besides the building of railroads and telegraphs, attention has been given to the benefit of native industries, to the improvement of agriculture, to founding libraries and schools in the towns, and to the enlargement of the trade of the province. The first French settlement on the Senegal River was made early in the seventeenth century, and stations were fixed at various points for traffic with the natives. In 1783 Great Britain seized the territory, but in 1783 restored it again. Comparatively little was accomplished, however, for many years, though a civil government had been established in the territory, and much effort was made to develop its trade. The turning point in the history of the province was the appointment of General Faidherbe as its Governor in 1854. Under his able rule a number of adjoining districts were conquered and annexed, the country was improved and its trade much increased. The French claim that the territory of this colony extends from Cape Blanco in

the north to the Liberian boundary in the south, but its limits have been often disputed by other countries. In August, 1889, a convention of British and French Commissioners was held at Paris to delimit the boundaries between Senegal and the British colonies of Gambia and Sierra Leone. In August, 1890, by another agreement the French Territory was extended to the Niger River. Lake Tchad is now included in the French possessions. The French have built 164 miles of coast railways in this district, and they project a railway from the Senegal to the Niger to command the large trade tributary to both rivers. The Gaboon and the French Congo region are separate districts in administration, yet are contiguous and form one continuous region. In 1882 M. de Brazza, a daring French traveler, starting from the colony of Gaboon, began the exploration of the Ogove River. His purpose was to prospect a route from the head of navigation on the Ogove, to the Alima, a branch of the Congo, to tap the trade of the latter great stream. He laid claim to all the land that he traversed between the rivers and made treaties with the native chiefs. He went as far as Stanley Pool, and on the north-west shore of the river he built a station which he called Brazzaville. Twenty-seven stations have been established in the Gaboon-Congo country, but besides the garrison of French soldiers there are only a few Europeans in the district. Some mission schools have been established, but no roads have yet been built, nor is there yet a postal or a telegraphic service in the colony. The French possessions on the gold coast include six important stations, and these were, Jan. 1, 1890, divided into two independent colonies, the Gold Coast group and the Bight of Benin group. They have an important trade. The island of Reunion, 140 leagues east of Madagascar, has belonged to France since 1764. It has over one hundred miles of railway, and the trade with it is considerable. Sainte Marie is a station including sixty-four square miles on the north coast of Madagascar, which has been held by France ever since 1643. Mayotte and the Comores are islands between Madagascar and the African coast. Nossi-Be is an island nearer the Madagascar coast; all of these have been taken under French control during the last decade. Obock is a French colony on the Red Sea coast, of which possession was taken in 1884. For account of the war which led to the French protectorate of Madagascar see *Our Curiosity Shop* book for 1885. By the treaty which was signed at Tamatave Dec. 12, 1885, a French resident general, with a small mili-

tary escort, was allowed to take up his residence at the capital of the island, a French colony was established on the coast, and the foreign relations of the island were placed under the direct regulation of France. So far it can not be seen that the French protectorate is of any value either to the island or to the French themselves.

#### M. JULES VERNE.

NEWARK, N.J.  
Give a brief biographical sketch of Jules Verne, the writer, and a list of his works.

O. U.

*Answer.*—Jules Verne was born at Nantes, France, Feb. 8, 1828; was educated in his native town, and afterward studied law in Paris. His first literary work was in the line of dramatic writing, and he wrote a number of comedies and comic operas, which were put on the Parisian stage. His fame, however, rests chiefly on his scientific romances. The first of these, "Five Weeks in a Balloon," first appeared in 1863. It was translated into English in 1870. The great success of this work led him to continue writing in the same style. The following is a list of his subsequent works that have been translated into English, with date of publication in this country: "A Journey to the Center of the Earth," 1872; "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," 1873; "Meridiana, or Adventures in South Africa," 1873; "From the Earth to the Moon," 1873; "The Fur Country," "Around the World in Eighty Days," "A Floating City," "The English at the North Pole," "Dr. Ox's Experiment," all in 1874; "Adventures of Captain Hatteras," "The Mysterious Island," "The Survivors of the Chancellor," 1875; "Michael Strogoff," 1876; "The Child of the Cavern," "The Career of a Comet," 1877; "Dick Sand, the Boy Captain," 1878; "The Green Ray," 1882; "Kereban, the Headstrong," 1883; "The Star of the South," and "The Land of Diamonds," 1884.

#### THE AMNESTY ACT OF 1872.

DELPHOS, Kan.  
Give the substance of the "general amnesty law" of 1872. In Kansas persons who served in the Confederate army are not allowed to vote by an amendment to the constitution of the State adopted in 1867. Did not the amnesty law of 1872 remove all disabilities? D. A. BREWSTER.

*Answer.*—The bill as passed by the House May 13, 1872, and by the Senate May 21, was as follows: "Be it enacted, That all legal and political disabilities imposed by the third section of the fourteenth article of the amendments of the Constitution of the United States are hereby removed from all persons whomsoever, except Senators and Representatives of the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Congress, officers of the judicial, military, and naval service of the United States, heads of

departments, and foreign ministers of the United States." It is plain that this act dealt only with disabilities imposed by the fourteenth amendment, and did not in the least interfere with the disabilities that might be inflicted by the States. Those, as far as this act could interfere with them, might continue to the end of time.

## GOVERNORS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

## BUCHANAN, Mich.

Give a list of the Governors of North Carolina, from the first to the present incumbent, with date of term.

F. T.

*Answer.*—North Carolina was governed for the first sixty years or more of its colonial existence as a proprietary colony. Governor Berkeley, of Virginia, was one of its proprietors, and he appointed its first governor on his visit to the infant settlement at Durant's Neck in 1663. In 1729 the rights and interests of the colony were purchased by the crown. The following table gives the list of governors from the earliest times:

## (1) UNDER THE LORD PROPRIETORS.

George Drummond.....	1663-67
Samuel Stevens.....	1667-74
Mr. Cartwright.....	1674-77
Mr. Miller.....	1677-78
John Culpepper.....	1678-80
John Harvey.....	1680-81
John Jenkins.....	1681-83
Seth Sothel.....	1683-89
Philip Ludwell.....	1689-93
Alexander Livingston.....	1693-95
Thomas Harvey.....	1695-1705
Henderson Walker.....	1705-09
William Grover.....	1709-10
Edward Hyde.....	1710-22
Thomas Pollock.....	1722
William Reed.....	1722-27
George Burrington.....	1724-25
Sir Richard Everhard.....	1725-30

## (2) UNDER THE CROWN.

George Burrington.....	1730-34
Gabriel Johnston.....	1734-53
Nathaniel Rice.....	1753-54
Matthew Rowan.....	1754
Arthur Dobbs.....	1754-65
William Tryon.....	1765-71
Josiah Martin.....	1771-75

## (3) AS AN INDEPENDENT COLONY.

Richard Caswell.....	1777-79
Abner Nash.....	1780-81
Thomas Burke.....	1781-82
Alexander Martin.....	1782-84
Richard Caswell.....	1784-87
Samuel Johnson.....	1787-89

## (4) UNDER THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

Alexander Martin.....	1789-92
Richard D. Spaight.....	1792-95
Samuel Ashe.....	1795-98
William B. Davis.....	1798-99
Benjamin Williams.....	1799-1802
James Turner.....	1802-05
Nathaniel Alexander.....	1805-07
Benjamin Williams.....	1807-08
David Stone.....	1808-10
Benjamin Smith.....	1810-11
William Hawkins.....	1811-14
William Miller.....	1814-17
John Branch.....	1817-20
Jesse Franklin.....	1820-21
Gabriel Holmes.....	1821-24
Hutchings G. Barton.....	1824-27
James Iredell.....	1827-28
John Owen.....	1828-30
Montfort Stokes.....	1830-32
David L. Swain.....	1832-35

Richard D. Spaight.....	1835-37
Edward B. Dudley.....	1837-41
John M. Morehead.....	1841-45
William A. Graham.....	1845-49
Charles Manly.....	1849-51
David S. Reid.....	1851-55
Thomas Bragg.....	1855-59
John W. Ellis.....	1859-61
H. T. Clark (acting).....	1861-62
Zebulon B. Vance.....	1862-65
W. W. Holden (provisional).....	1865
Jonathan Worth.....	1865-69
W. W. Holden.....	1869-71
Tod. R. Caldwell.....	1871-74
Curtis H. Brogden.....	1874-77
Zebulon B. Vance.....	1877-81
Thomas J. Jarvis.....	1881-85
Alfred M. Scales.....	1885-89
Daniel G. Fowle.....	1889

## LAND GRANTS FOR RAILROADS.

## RED WING, Minn.

Give table showing the various grants of land by Congress for the building of railroads, the date of the grants, and the amount of land that has been taken up under each.

M. N. W.

*Answer.*—The following table, which has been taken from the compilation of the returns of the general land office at Washington, shows the dates of grants made, the railroads for which the land was given, and the number of acres that had been certified under each grant up to June 30, 1888. It should be remembered that previous to 1862 all these grants were made directly to the States. In July, 1862, the Union Pacific railroad was incorporated by a direct act of Congress, and the grant of land was made to the corporation. The land-office tables show that the land that has been thus far certified by the railroads, especially of the great amounts granted between 1862 and 1870 to corporations, has been in several cases a mere fraction of that contained in the original grant. During the past ten years a very large proportion of the uncertified land of these grants has been declared forfeited and has been restored to the public domain.

States in which land was situated.	Date of the act.	Name of road for which land was granted.	No. acres that have been taken up under grants.
Ill...	Sept. 20, 1850....	Illinois Central	2,595,053
Ill...	Sept. 20, 1850....	Mobile & Chicago	
Miss.	Sept. 20, 1850....	Mobile and Ohio River	737,130
Miss.	Aug. 11, 1856....	Vicksburg and Meridian	198,027
Ala...	Sept. 20, 1850....	Mobile and Ohio River	419,523
Ala...	May 17, 1856....	Ala. and Fla.	394,522
Ala...	{ June 3, 1856. }	Selma, Rome	457,215
Ala...	{ May 23, 1872. }	and Dalton	
Ala...	June 3, 1856....	Coosa and Tenn.	67,784
Ala...	June 3, 1856....	Mobile & Girard	504,145
Ala...	{ June 3, 1856. }	Alabama and Chattanooga	649,677
Ala...	{ April 10, 1869 }		
Ala...	{ June 3, 1856. }	South and North Alabama	438,906
Fla...	May 17, 1856....	Florida Railroad	290,183
Fla...	May 17, 1856....	Fla. and Ala.	115,688
Fla...	May 17, 1856....	Pensacola & Ga.	1,275,579

Fla.	May 17, 1856.....	Florida, Atlantic & Gulf Central	29,384	Corp.	March 3, 1869....	U. P., successor to Denver Pac.	164,721
La.	June 3, 1856.....	No. La. & Texas	853,211	Corp.	July 1, 1862.....	Central Pacific	1,040,210
La.	June 3, 1856.....	N. O., Opelousas & Great West.	719,193	Corp.	July 1, 1862.....	Central Pacific	447,768
Ark.	July 14, 1870.....	St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern.....	1,115,117	Corp.	July 2, 1864.....	Burlington and Mo. River.....	2,373,291
Ark.	May 28, 1866.....	Memphis and Little Rock..	204,279	Corp.	July 2, 1864.....	Sioux City and Pacific.....	41,398
Ark.	July 9, 1853.....	Little Rock & Fort Smith..	127,238	Corp.	July 2, 1864.....	Northern Pacific	1,037,359
Mo.	Feb. 9, 1853.....	Han. & St. Joe.	560,584	Corp.	July 2, 1864.....	Oregon Branch of Central Pac	1,362,433
Mo.	June 10, 1862.....	Pacific & South-west Branch.....	507,063	Corp.	July 27, 1866.....	Oregon & Cal..	322,062
Mo.	Feb. 9, 1853.....	St. Louis, Iron Mt. & Southern	728,919	Corp.	July 27, 1866.....	Atlantic & Pac..	959,207
Mo.	July 4, 1866.....	St. L. & Iron Mt	63,294	Corp.	July 25, 1868.....	Southern Pacific	1,048,430
Iowa	May 15, 1856.....	Burlington & Mo. River...	292,207	Corp.	March 3, 1871....	So. Pac. branch line.....	187,719
Iowa	June 2, 1864.....	Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific.....	96,726			N. O. & Pacific..	679,237
Iowa	May 15, 1856.....	Cedar Rapids & Mo. River...	481,974	Total number of acres, 50,588,607.			
Iowa	Jan. 31, 1873.....	Iowa Falls and Sioux City.....	161,173	CUBES AND CUBE ROOTS.			
Iowa	May 15, 1856.....	Dubuque and Sioux City.....	782,460	PORT WASHINGTON, Wia.			
Iowa	Jan. 2, 1864.....	Des Moines Valley.....	839,660	When was it first discovered how to extract the cube root? I have recently discovered a new way, as simple as simple division, and would like to know how long the old complicated method has been used?			
Iowa	May 12, 1864.....	Chi., Mil. and St. Paul.....	683,023	G. W. FOSTER.			
Iowa	May 12, 1864.....	McGregor and Mo. River.....	185,987	Answer.—The origin of cube root extractions is generally ascribed to the mathematician Ferrea, who lived in the sixteenth century. We really cannot say whether this is correct or not. But a simple and rapid way of performing this difficult process is well known to algebra. If the power is a perfect one the evolution of its root is readily obtained by factoring—that is, separating the power into its prime factors. If the power is a cube, let these factors be arranged in three sets, each containing the same factors, and the product of any one of these sets will be the required root. By analysis, also bearing in mind the formula by which an algebraic cube is formed, the evolution of the cube root becomes greatly simplified. The cube of the sum of any two quantities in algebra is made up of the cube of the first, plus three times the square of the first multiplied by the second, plus three times the first by the square of the second, plus the cube of the second. The significance of the long arithmetical rule, when thus analyzed, becomes very plain, and, indeed, this analysis alone will serve to give any root of two figures, formed of tens and units, even without the laborious application of the rule.			
Iowa	May 12, 1864.....	Sioux City and St. Paul.....	133,187	LINSSEED OIL.			
Mich	June 3, 1856.....	Port Huron and Lake Mich.....	407,910	FAIRVIEW, Kan.			
Mich	June 3, 1856.....	Jackson, Lansing and Sag.	37,467	How is oil obtained from flaxseed?			
Mich	June 3, 1856.....	Flint and Pere Marquette.....	743,009	T. R. IRWIN.			
Mich	June 3, 1856.....	Grand Rapids and Indiana.....	512,337	Answer.—There are two processes used in making linseed oil from flax, the cold process, and that in which heat is used. By the first the seed is ground in its raw state, and the meal obtained is subjected to powerful hydraulic pressure, which extracts the oil that it contains. In the second process the seed is first roasted and is then ground in a mill in the same manner, and is pressed at a steam			
Mich	June 7, 1864.....	M'quette, Houghton & Ontario.....	629,993				
Mich	June 3, 1856.....	Bay de Noquet & Marquette.....	292,967				
Mich	March 3, 1865.....	Chicago & Northwestern.....	487,411				
Mich	July 5, 1862.....	Chi., St. P. and Minneapolis.....	128,000				
Wis.	June 3, 1856.....	St. Croix & L. S. & branch to Bayfield..	517,826				
Wis.	June 3, 1856.....	Chicago & Northwestern.....	801,691				
Wis.	June 3, 1856.....	Wisconsin Cent.	811,162				
Wis.	June 3, 1856.....	Wis. R. R. Farm Mfg Land Co..	464,645				
Winn	March 3, 1857.....	St. P. & Pacific	545,576				
Winn	March 3, 1857.....	Western R. R.	749,083				
Winn	March 3, 1871.....	St. Paul, Minn. and Manitoba..	183,119				
Winn	March 3, 1873.....	Minn. Central	1,261,046				
Winn	March 3, 1857.....	Winnona & St. P.	647,038				
Winn	March 3, 1857.....	St. Paul & Sioux City.....	1,258,349				
Winn	March 3, 1857.....	Lake Superior & Mississippi.....	179,706				
Winn	May 5, 1864.....	So. Minnesota.....	1,676,788				
Winn	March 3, 1857.....	So. Minn. Extn.	1,146,888				
Winn	July 4, 1866.....	Hastings & Dak.	828,586				
Winn	July 4, 1866.....	L'ven'w'th, Lawrence & Gal'n	56,536				
Winn	March 3, 1863.....	Mo., Kansas and Texas.....	451,945				
Winn	March 3, 1863.....	Atch., Topeka & Santa Fe.....	312,770				
Winn	July 23, 1866.....	St. Jo & Denver City.....	266,122				
Winn	July 25, 1866.....	Mo. River, Ft. S. and Gulf.....	983,946				
Corp.	July 1, 1862.....	Union Pacific.....	2,935,002				
Corp.	July 1, 1862.....	Central Branch Union Pacific..	462,573				
Corp.	July 1, 1862.....	Kansas Pacific..	527				
Corp.	July 1, 1862.....		2,616,258				
Corp.	July 1, 1862.....		218,250				
Corp.	July 1, 1862.....		963,714				

heat of about 200 degrees F. The resulting oils from these two processes have very different qualities. The cold-pressed oil is of a golden yellow color, almost tasteless, and quite sticky. It does not keep very well, but turns dark-colored, and becomes rancid, especially if exposed to the air. The roasting process destroys the gummy matter in the inner coating of the seeds, and the oil obtained is less mucilaginous, but it is darker colored and has a more acrid taste than the fresh cold-pressed oil. The heat-process oil is the kind most generally used.

#### HONORS OF WAR.

ELLSWORTH, Kan.

What is meant when an army is said to be allowed to surrender with honors of war?

R. HUDSON.

*Answer.*—When a besieged town has surrendered, and its garrison is permitted to march out, carrying their arms with them, with drums beating and colors flying, they are said to have capitulated with honors of war. That is, they are understood not to be conquered, but to be permitted to retire, with the privilege of continuing the war elsewhere.

#### CRYSTALLIZED FRUITS.

HOWARD, Mich.

Please tell us how crystallized fruits are made? Is this process carried on in this country to any extent?

R. L. JONES.

*Answer.*—The crystallization of fruits being a very simple process, it is no doubt carried on to some extent by most manufacturing confectioners in this country. But the bulk of the crystallized fruits of commerce are still prepared in Southeastern France, where the process originated. The great center of the manufacture is at Clermont Ferrand, about 100 miles west of Lyons. It is also carried on extensively at Nice, and in a number of other places. The kinds of fruits preserved by this process are mainly pears, cherries, apricots, pine-apples, plums, figs, oranges, and lemons. Great care is necessary in selecting the fruit for the purpose. It must be fresh, quite free from decay or other blemish, and of precisely the right degree of ripeness. This is an important point, as the fruit, if not ripe enough, will not absorb the sugar well, while if it is overripe it will not retain its form in boiling, but will become a marmalade. The secret of the crystallization process is that the juice is taken out of the fruit and replaced in the pulp with liquid sugar. The sugar, upon hardening, keeps the fruit from spoiling and retains it in natural form. After the fruit has been selected it is prepared carefully, so as to do as little injury as possible to its form and solidity. Thick skins, as of pears, quinces, and pineapples, are removed, and the pits of stone fruits,

plums, apricots, and peaches, are taken out. They are then dipped into boiling water to blanch or whiten them, or the "blanching" process may be done by steaming the fruit. The scalded fruit is then picked over and put in different receptacles, according to its degree of softness. This is because the softer fruits require a stronger syrup than those of firmer texture. For the same reason different varieties of fruit require syrups of different strength. Pears, citrons, and pineapples, for instance, need a syrup of less density than apricots, plums, and figs. The syrup, which is made by dissolving granulated sugar in pure water, is boiled until it "threads," that is, until a drop of it, touched by the finger, will separate into filaments as the finger is withdrawn. Its density is regulated by the amount of water added to the sugar before boiling. The fruit is then put into the syrup and left there until the liquid assumes a clouded appearance, which is caused by the fruity juice exuding into the sugar. Then the vessel containing the syrup and fruit—they are usually placed in glazed earthenware pans—is placed over the fire and gently boiled. If any impurities rise to the surface, they must be carefully skimmed off. The vessel is placed in a cool place, and after four or five days, some filminess appearing in it again, it is again placed on the stove, and its contents raised to the boiling point. This alternate fermentation and boiling is undergone three or four times, the fruit and syrup remaining together for from two to five weeks. The fruit is now thoroughly impregnated with sugar, and is taken out, washed in pure, lukewarm water to remove any flaky particles that still adhere to it, and is then submitted to one of two finishing processes, as follows: If the fruit is to be glazed, that is, covered with an ice or transparent coating, it is dipped in a thick, viscid syrup of sugar, which has been prepared thus: Granulated sugar, melted with just enough water to soften it, has been boiled to the "thread" without stirring, and has then been beaten with a spatula until the whole has the consistency of thick cream. In this form it can be kept indefinitely in a cool place. It is melted for the purpose of "glacing" or icing the fruit, which after being dipped into it is taken out and allowed to dry in the open air. If the icing is not sufficient after the first dipping, another is given to it. But if the fruit is to be "crystallized" it is dipped into a similar syrup which has not been beaten to a cream, and is then dried slowly in an oven heated to a temperature of 90 degrees F. This slow drying causes the thick syrup with

which the fruit is covered to crystallize and assume the usual granulated appearance. If the work above outlined has been skilfully done the fruit thus prepared will bear transportation to any climate, and will keep, firm and unchanged, for years.

#### TRUCE OF GOD.

CHICAGO.

\* What was known as the "truce of God?" I find the term in one of Whittier's poems. READER.

*Answer.*—This was a curious medieval custom, designed to protect the people to some extent against the lawless tyranny of the feudal lords. It was first decreed at a church synod convened at Roussillon in 1027 that none should attack his enemy between Saturday evening at noons and Monday morning at the hour of prime. About 1042 a similar compact was entered into between the church and the barons in England. The church forbade barons to make any attack on each other between sunset on Wednesday and sunrise on the following Monday, or upon any ecclesiastical fast or feast day. It was also provided that no man should molest or attack a laborer working in the field, or lay hands on any implement of husbandry on pain of excommunication.

#### GOVERNORS OF WEST VIRGINIA.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich.

Will Our Curiosity Shop give a list of the Governors of the State of West Virginia?

W. A. NEWBRAND.

*Answer.*—The following list gives the names and terms of West Virginia Governors since the formation of the State:

Arthur I. Boreman.....	1861-69
William E. Stevenson.....	1869-71
John J. Jacob.....	1871-77
Henry M. Matthews.....	1877-81
Jacob B. Jackson.....	1881-85
E. Willis Wilson.....	1885-89
A. B. Fleming.....	1889

#### FOREIGNERS IN OUR POPULATION.

CHICAGO.

1. Was there ever a contest in Congress in the early days as to whether English or German should be the Nation's special language, and did Congress decide in favor of English by two majority? I have been so informed. 2. What foreign nationality predominated in this country during the Revolutionary war, and what percentage of English, Dutch, Irish, and Swedish were there here?

L. A. LARSEN.

*Answer.*—1. Nothing of the kind ever occurred. The story is a sample of the fictions that are started no one knows how, and only gain currency through the fact that so large a portion of the present population of the country are totally ignorant of the early history of the Nation. The fact is, the United States had been a nation nearly sixty years before the influx of alien populations assumed even a noticeable importance. 2. There were no predominating foreign nationalities here during the Revolutionary

war, all were Americans, and there were very few who were not Americans through two generations of ancestry if not more. To be sure the Dutch had settled in New York, the Swedes had settled in New Jersey, the French Huguenots had settled in North Carolina, and Germans in Pennsylvania, but these had, long before the uprising for independence, assimilated with the settlers of English descent, who were by far the most numerous of the people. In many localities they constituted the entire people. The immense majority of American families then, both in New England and the Southern States, were of the Saxon race. Savage, in his "Genealogical Dictionary," says: "I suppose that nineteen-twentieths of the people of the New England colonies in 1775 were descendants of those found here in 1692." The proportion of native citizens was much the same in the other parts of the original thirteen colonies. Few persons, perhaps, know that this proportion had changed but little in 1820. During 100 years previous to that date, not more than 170,000 to 250,000 foreigners had come to this country. Even then, in those parts of the country which were altogether alien at the time of the Revolutionary war, the natives had taken possession. The French in Louisiana constituted not more than 1 per cent of the population. In California the Spanish Mexicans still held predominance, but very soon after the discovery of gold in 1849 they had been reduced to a helpless minority. The Irish were but slightly represented in this country until the year of the great Irish famine—1846-7. Then they began to come over in shoals and have been visiting us in similar manner ever since. But the great inpouring tide of foreign peoples did not come upon us till after the civil war. The census never made any record of those of foreign birth in the country until the year 1850. There were then less than a million here.

#### A JEWISH CUSTOM.

WIBT, Iowa.

Tell about the origin the custom of the Jews, to release a prisoner at the time of the feast of the passover. Is there such a custom in existence now, either among the Jews or any other nation?

J. CLOUGH.

*Answer.*—There is considerable question among Bible commentators as to the origin of this custom among the Jews. It is not certain whether it was an ancient custom of the Hebrews, which Pilate allowed the people to retain, or whether the practice had been introduced by the Roman governors, with the direct purpose of securing the favor of the people toward their rule. From the words of St. John, "But ye have a custom," etc., some have argued that the custom must have been



essentially Hebrew. There is found in some of the Talmudic writings mention of an instance wherein permission is given to slay a lamb on the 14th day of Nisan for the special use of one in prison to whom a release had been promised, and this is taken to indicate that this custom had long existed among the Jews. Others argue that the custom was probably taken from the Syrians or from the Greeks and Romans. It is known that the Greeks had a custom of this kind at the festival of the Thesmophoria, a feast celebrated in honor of the goddess Demeter, and the Romans followed a similar practice at the lectisternia, certain sacrifices partaking of the nature of feasts, wherein the gods themselves were supposed to partake, which were celebrated with extraordinary solemnities. Since the dispersal of the Jews through other nations after the destruction of Jerusalem they have not, of course, had the power to make any such custom as this a part of their celebration of the passover. Nor has any such custom, so far as we know, been followed by any modern nation at its festivals.

#### ANCIENT ROME AND JERUSALEM.

WHEATON, III.

1. How large, in circuit, was the city of ancient Rome? 2. How did the area of Rome compare with that of ancient Jerusalem? 3. What was the population of the two cities at the time of the Herods?

INQUIRER.

*Answer.*—1. The wall built around Rome by Servius Tullius about 550 B. C. was seven miles in circuit; that of Aurelian, built 271-280 A. D., was nearly twelve miles. The wall of Aurelian still incloses the city. 2. The wall built around Jerusalem by Herod Agrippa was nearly four miles in circumference. We may conclude, therefore, that Jerusalem covered an area of not more than one-third the extent of ancient Rome. 3. Estimates of the population of these ancient cities differ greatly. Modern authorities do not, as a rule, accept the large estimates of the population of these cities, which were given by ancient historians. Rome and Jerusalem, and, somewhat later, Alexandria, were the only large cities of the ancient world, and probably no one of these was as large as described. The American Cyclopaedia says that Jerusalem was apparently at the zenith of its greatness under the Herods, and ascribes to it then a population of 200,000. It further says: "According to Josephus, 1,100,000 Jews perished in the siege [of Jerusalem], and 97,000 were carried into captivity, and Tacitus says that the number besieged in the city, including both sexes and every age, amounted to 600,000, but a critical examination easily proves both statements to

be greatly exaggerated." Professor Smith, in his "Bible Dictionary," says that "the population of Jerusalem in its days of greatest prosperity, may have amounted to from 85,000 to 45,000 only, but could hardly ever have reached 50,000; and assuming that in times of festival one-half was added to this amount, which is an extreme estimate, there may have been 60,000 or 70,000 in the city when Titus came up against it." The Rev. F. W. Peloubet rejects Josephus' estimate of population as too extreme, but says that the number given by Tacitus, 600,000, is "within the limits of possibility." Professor Schaff, on the other hand, accepts the statement of Josephus as credible. Doubts as to the great population of the city are founded upon its limited area, which could not possibly include so great a number of people. As to Rome, the estimates of historians also differ. Gibbon places the figure, at the time of the city's most populous era, under Theodosius the Great, in the fourth century, at 1,200,000 inhabitants. It is known that the number of buildings in the city in that reign was 48,382. Gibbon allows an average of twenty-five persons to a building and makes the total estimate as above. Other writers give larger figures. The Encyclopedia Britannica places the population of Rome in the fourth century at 2,500,000; Chambers' Encyclopedia estimates the people under Augustus at 1,800,000, and under Vespasian at about 2,000,000. Other much larger estimates have been made, De Quincy placing the population at from 4,000,000 to 6,000,000, and Lipsius and Vossius making it as high as from 4,000,000 to 14,000,000 at its populous period. It is probable that at the time mentioned, just before the destruction of Jerusalem, the population of Rome did not exceed 1,000,000, and it may have been below that figure.

#### THE STRUGGLE OVER THE RULES.

GALESBURG, III.

Give a complete account of the parliamentary struggle in the first session of the Fifty-first Congress.

H. W. R.

*Answer.*—By "parliamentary struggle" we understand reference to be made to the famous struggle over the rules in the House of Representatives. That body, it must be remembered, carries on business under a code of rules formally adopted by each successive Congress. The code may not be changed; it may be, and has been, adopted by one Congress after another without any changes, but there is always a committee appointed, which is empowered to make alterations in the rules as it may see fit, and these alterations, after being approved by the House, become a part of the code, as binding

upon the actions of the House as the most ancient regulation hitherto contained therein. It has been the usual custom for the Committee on Rules to make its report early in the session, in order that business might be carried on from the first in an orderly manner. On the meeting of the Fifty-first Congress, however, there was a most unwonted delay on the part of the Rules Committee, its report being withheld for nearly two months after the opening of the session. During the interval, the business of the House was supposed to be conducted under general parliamentary rules, but there being a lack of general understanding concerning the nature and limitations of these rules, it became necessary for the Speaker to settle all contested points. This produced delay and a very outspoken demand on the part of the minority for the adoption of a code of rules. The crisis came Jan. 29, when the first of the contested election cases came before the House. To prevent action upon this the Democrats resorted to the old obstructive methods. To prevent a quorum they refused to answer to the roll-call. The Speaker checkmated their move by counting the silent members as present and not voting, in order to complete a quorum. Naturally, this unexpected innovation upon established custom produced a most angry protest on the part of the minority. For several days the House resembled a bear-garden, the Democrats resorting to turbulence, and every other obstructive method that they could devise, in order to thwart the purpose of the Speaker. Finding, however, that he was supported by the majority, they subsided, and Feb. 7 the new code of rules was brought before the House, and after a warm debate was adopted. These rules empowered the Speaker to count a quorum at any time when members refused to answer to their names. Though, subsequently, the Democrats tried repeatedly the old methods of obstruction, the contest was in reality concluded when counting a quorum by the Speaker was sanctioned by a rule of the House.

#### ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

MORRISONVILLE, Ill.

Give a history of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. H. A. F.

*Answer.*—The One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry was mustered into the United States service at Camp Butler, Ill., Sept. 18, 1862. It was at first sent to Memphis, thence to Jackson, Tenn., went back to Memphis in February, and thence was sent in May to take part in the siege of Vicksburg. After the surrender it took part in the battle at Jackson, Miss., was subsequently at various points

doing picket duty or was chasing guerrillas, until November, when it went back to Memphis. Took part in several scouting expeditions during the winter and spring, and June 1, on a raid with General Sturgis, had two sharp fights with the enemy at Guntown and Harrisville, losing in both engagements forty men. The regiment returned to Memphis, and stayed there until ordered, in August, to take part in General A. J. Smith's expedition. After that it was sent to take part in the pursuit of General Price. Went to Cape Girardeau, across the State to Kansas City, back to St. Louis, then down to Nashville, arriving at the latter place just in time to take part in the battle there Dec. 15 and 16, 1864. The loss of the regiment in this fight was fifteen killed and wounded. The regiment then took part in the pursuit of Hood as far as Pulaski, was thence sent to Eastport, from there to New Orleans, and in March following went to take part in the capture of Spanish Fort and Mobile. After the surrender of Mobile the regiment marched to Montgomery, Ala., bridged the Alabama river at that point with pontoons, and remained on duty there until July 17. It was then sent home for muster out and discharge, leaving the service Aug. 15, 1865.

#### THE MOUND BUILDERS AND THE INDIANS.

BELLE CENTER, Wis.

Explain the known differences between the mound builders and the Indian races, as to customs and civilization. D. V. C.

*Answer.*—Nothing is really known of the mound builders, as they are called, the race or races that preceded the American Indians in the occupation of this continent. That such people existed is surmised from the fact of the existence of certain remarkable works, which, there is good reason to believe, were not constructed by the Indians; indeed many of them are known to have been regarded by the Indians as very ancient works, of which they themselves had only a traditional knowledge. That these could never have been made by the Indians seems conclusively proved by the fact that they indicate a higher state of civilization than the Indians of North America had attained up to the time that the white man first came to this country. The Indians were never able to do more than work in the rudest manner in wood and stone. But in many of the ancient mounds there are found elaborate carvings in stone, pottery of elegant design, and articles for use and ornament, in bronze, silver, or copper. A writer on the subject says that the monuments left by the mound builders "indicate that the ancient population was numerous and widely spread, as shown from the number and magnitude of their works, and the extensive range of

their occurrence; that it was essentially homogeneous in customs, habits, religion and government, as appears from the great uniformity which the works display, not only in respect to position and form, but in all minor particulars; and that the features common to all the remains identify them as appertaining to a single grand system, owing its origin to a family of men moving in the same general direction, acting under common impulses and influenced by similar causes." Archaeologists find in the mounds evidence of a very different state of society than that among the Indians. The Indians were a nomadic race, subsisting by hunting; the mound builders were apparently an agricultural people. Many of the mounds seem to have been erected as military works; these would only have been needed by an agricultural people. These works must have required the labor of many men for a long period, but "there never was a tribe of Indians, north of the semi-civilized nations of Mexico and Central America, which had the means of subsistence to enable them to supply for such purposes the unproductive labor necessary for the work; nor were they in such a social state as to compel the labor of the people to be thus supplied."

#### STANLEY'S EXPEDITIONS.

GALESVILLE, Wis.

Give an account of Stanley's several expeditions in Africa, their object and result. M. J. B.

*Answer.*—Mr. Stanley's first expedition to Africa was in 1867 when he accompanied the English troops sent against King Theodore, of Abyssinia, as correspondent of the *New York Herald*. In October, 1869, the same paper sent him in search of Dr. David Livingstone, who had gone into the interior of Africa, but as nothing had been heard from him for two years it was not known whether he was living or dead. Stanley first visited Constantinople and went from Bombay into Zanzibar, reaching the latter place in January, 1871. He organized a large expedition and started for the interior Feb. 18. His progress through the country was slow, and he did not reach Ujiji until Nov. 10. There he found Dr. Livingstone and stayed with him four months. Then Stanley returned to the coast, reaching Zanzibar in May, 1872. Dr. Livingstone remained to finish the exploration of the lake country, but died before he had completed his work. In 1874, commissioned both by the *New York Herald* and the *London Telegraph*, Mr. Stanley again started into the heart of Africa. His purpose was to explore the mysterious river Lualaba, that Livingstone believed to be identical with the Nile, and if, as other explorers had supposed, it was identical

with the Congo, to follow it down to the Atlantic Ocean. He went first to the Victoria Nyanza, reaching that lake in February, 1875. He was the first white man to sail around the lake, which he found to be the largest fresh water lake on the globe. He then explored Lake Albert Nyanza, but was hindered much by the hostility of the natives. He then embarked on the Lualaba River, following it to the coast, and finding it was no other than the Congo. His journey down the river occupied eight months. He arrived at a Portuguese settlement on the coast in August, 1877. The perils and hardships of this expedition had been very great, but its results to geographical knowledge were also great. The International African Association was now formed, with King Leopold of Belgium at its head, and Mr. Stanley was intrusted with the work of opening the Congo to the world. He went to the mouth of the river in 1879, and first had a road built around the rapids, over which steamers were conveyed in parts to the upper river. He spent four years in aiding the enterprise, during which period he planted trading stations along the river for a distance of 1,400 miles, and established a beginning of civil government in that region. He declined the proffered Governorship of the Free State, retiring from its service in 1883, after completing a new expedition to the equator. In the latter part of 1886 Mr. Stanley, under the auspices of the Egyptian Government and of English societies and individuals, undertook an expedition to relieve Emin Pasha, the Governor of the Equatorial Province of the Soudan. Emin Pasha was a German, his real name being Dr. Edward Schnitzler, and what he had asked for was a small military force that would enable him to save the province, upon whose civilization he had spent four years of labor, from falling into the hands of the cruel and fanatical Mahdi. He had appealed to England and then to Germany to extend a protectorate over the province, but neither country was willing to do it, for political reasons. Stanley was sent, however, to relieve any personal need of the Governor, and to bring him in safety to the coast. The shortest and easiest route to the Soudan from Zanzibar was not chosen, because the expedition would then have to pass through German territory, but it was decided to send the expedition around by way of the Congo. Mr. Stanley left England in January, 1887, went first to Zanzibar, where he enlisted 620 natives and took them around the Cape to the Congo. Going up the river to Leopoldville he went from there up the Aruwhimi river to Yambuya,

where in June he left five of his nine white companions and 257 natives in charge of the main part of the stores. This part of the force was under command of Major Barttelot, and was to follow the main expedition as soon as the large force of native carriers should arrive, which Tippoo Tib, the chief slave trader of the district, whom Stanley had conciliated by making him the administrator of the Stanley Falls district in his absence, had promised to furnish. Stanley, going forward, met with great difficulties struggling through the undergrowth of an extensive forest. In December, 1887, he reached the Albert Nyanza, on the opposite shore of which was the province of Emin Pasha. Finding the natives unwilling to let him have a boat to cross the lake, Mr. Stanley took the extraordinary course of retracing his terrible journey through the forest to the upper waters of the Aruwihimi River, and carrying a steel boat which he had left there overland to the lake. He reached Albert Nyanza a second time in April, 1888. Then Stanley went back again to the Aruwihimi, and down the river to Yambuya to get the stores and ammunition. Here he found that the aid from Tippoo Tib had not been sent as promised, that the commander, Major Barttelot, had been murdered by the natives, that two of the officers had been sent down to Stanley Falls sick, one of them dying on the way, that the native garrison had been reduced by disease and desertion to seventy men, and that but one white man remained in charge of the enfeebled camp. Mr. Stanley then enlisted sufficient carriers to take the stores and ammunition, and made the toilsome journey back again to Albert Nyanza, reaching there in December, 1888. April 1, 1889, the march to the eastern coast was begun, Emin Pasha accompanying it. The return expedition moved slowly, exploring the country, and reached the German garrison at Mpwapa Nov. 10, and the station of Bago-moyo Dec. 4, 1889. This last expedition of Mr. Stanley lasted 1,012 days.

#### POSTOFFICE STATISTICS.

##### CHICAGO.

Give in Our Curiosity Shop the following statistics concerning our postoffice business: 1. Number of postoffices in the United States now. 2. New postoffices established last year. 3. Cost of the whole system annually. 4. Number of letters sent. 5. Number of letters miscarried.

##### SUBSCRIBER.

*Answer.*—1. According to the latest annual report of the Postmaster General, which covers the fiscal year ending June 30, 1890, the number of postoffices of the first class was 102; of the second class, 517; of the third class, 2,119; and of the fourth class, 59,663, making a total of 62,401 offices. 2. The

number of new offices established during the year was 4,236; 331 offices were discontinued, making a net increase of 3,905 offices for the year, a much larger number than ever before was added to the service in a single year. The next largest number was that of 1886, when the net increase was 3,273. 3. The total revenue of the Postoffice Department for the fiscal year ending in 1890 was \$60,858,783.40; the expenditures aggregated \$66,645,083.80; the deficit equals \$5,786,300.40. 4. The total number of letters mailed from one postoffice to another is estimated at 1,561,452,742, the total amount of first-class matter, including sealed parcels sent at letter rates, drop-letters, and postal cards, aggregated 2,289,950,015. 5. The mail matter coming to the dead letter office annually is estimated at over 6,500,000 pieces, includes letters and sealed matter at letter postage. Of these, says the report, about 500,000 were of foreign origin, and were returned to the countries whence they came. Some 200,000 were restored unopened to their owners, and 1,800,000 were restored to their respective owners after they had been opened, the information necessary to such restoration having been ascertained from their contents. Valuable inclosures were found in 319,000 of the letters and parcels opened, the money, checks and postage stamps in them coming to a sum total of \$1,440,000; of these about 330,000 pieces were restored to their owners. Some 211,000 letters were destroyed because they contained lottery tickets and matter unfit for circulation, and about 3,375,000 pieces were burned because every effort made to find their owners had failed. Parcels of merchandise unclaimed for two years are annually disposed of at auction.

#### THE BEST SINGING BIRDS.

##### CHICAGO, Ill.

Where are the best singing canaries bred?  
READER.

*Answer.*—We referred this inquiry to G. H. Holden, a well-known bird importer, who gave reply in substance as follows: The best singers are bred in Germany; they are the Campanini canaries. These are the finest song canaries known, having long, silvery trills, high and low bells, every tone mellow, and the soft, long notes interspersed with flute-like whistlings. These birds usually sing the whole year through. Trained bullfinches pipe a number of popular songs. In Amsterdam, Paris and London, bird buyers often find rare small birds and fancy song birds. Africa, Mexico and the islands of the sea are searched continually for song birds and parrots of all kinds.

# INDEX.

The letters *a* and *b* accompanying the references in this index, indicate that *part* or *column* of the *page* on which the article, topic, or name referred to is given. For example: The reference "Aboukir, capture of," appears, and the reader is directed to page 9 b, which means that the matter on this topic will be found on the *second* or *right-hand column* of page 9. The article on "Hinnom, the Valley of," is on *both* columns of page 15, hence the reader is referred for it to 15 a-b. In brief, *a* means left-hand column, *b* means right-hand column, and *a-b* means both columns.

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